森田まさのり

●週刊少年ジャンプ・H13年9号～15号、17号～19号掲載分収録

So, I was drinking coffee at a fast food place. Not long before, I had been unable to finish, and regrettably tossed the cup with the extra coffee in the trash. I'm sure some of you have done this, too. This day, I was about to stop drinking, too, until I noticed what seemed to be letters on the bottom of the cup. It looked like a factoid. I wanted to read it, but I couldn't unless I finished the coffee... so I manned up and drained the last of my coffee. It seemed like I had an inkling of how to solve Tokyo's garbage problem, on that rainy afternoon.

LOVE

J・C

15

麻につるる蓬

JUMP COMICS

森田まさのり

ROOKIES

ルーキーズ

ROOKIES

ルーキーズ

15

森田まさのり

集英社

JUMP COMICS

15

麻につるる蓬

森田まさのり

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

ROOKIES ルーキーズ
15
森田まさのり

集英社

JUMP COMICS

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

15 麻(あさ)につるる蓬(よもぎ)

森田まさのり

STUDIO Kid man SINCE 1989

The Story Thus Far:

New teacher Kawato has accepted his mission to reform the currently-suspended baseball team. He scrapes together a group of young toughs and clears the necessary hurdles to keep the team alive. The Nikogaku Baseball Team is off to a new start. They lost their first practice game in a heartbreaker, but the team now has the dream of the "Koshien" firmly implanted in their hearts.

Nikogaku leads the fateful revenge match against Enatsu and his team at Meguro-gawa High, now heading into the bottom of the ninth. The final batter, Kono. The Nikogaku Nine are nervous in the face of their first-ever victory, but Mikoshiba's nice play seals the win. After the game, at Mikoshiba's urging, the team goes and apologizes to the former members who were driven out in the dark days, cutting off all the bonds of their foolish past and making a fresh start. Within the team, the competition between Hiyama and Hiratsuka for the last spot on in the starting lineup heats up. Hiyama starts a ferocious practice regimen in order to gain the edge on self-described "genius" Hiratsuka. Suddenly, an old underclassman of Hiratsuka's without any idea of the truth behind his boasts appears!

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

15

CONTENTS

Vol.136	The 1/10 Throne	7
Vol.137	The Sardine's Head Is Revealed	27
Vol.138	Snapper	46
Vol.139	The Pigeon and Crow Respect Their Elders	65
Vol.140	Mugwort Grows Straight Among the Flax	85
Vol.141	Can't Learn From Fujita-sensei	107
Vol.142	New Kids Gonna Get Ya	127
Vol.143	Spring Gathering	142
Vol.144	The Real Akaboshi	160
Vol.145	There's Always Tomorrow (Going to Georgia Ver.)	179

麻(あさ)につるる蓬(よもぎ)

LEGENDARY 5th Rookies SINCE 2008 GROUP

STUDIO Kitman SINCE 1989

Vol.136 The 1/10 Throne

THAT'S PATHETIC, YOU KNOW THAT?

AND THE FACT THAT YOU HAD TO *BET* WITH THESE KIDS?! I MEAN, COME ON...

AAAGH! THIS IS WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU GUYS...

IS THAT WHAT YOU WERE DOING, YESTERDAY ?!

WHAAAAT?!

WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE!

AND YOU RAN AWAY FROM SOME MIDDLE SCHOOLERS ?!

HUH?

W-WHOA, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GETTING ALL UPSET ABOUT?!

WE'RE UNDER-CLASSMEN OF ***HIRATSUKA-SAN.*** SO THERE.

DON'T BE TALKIN' SHIT ABOUT US BEIN' MIDDLE SCHOOLERS.

YOU WANNA KNOW SOME-THING?

I-IF WE ASK HIM... HIRATSUKA-SAN WILL TOTALLY SLAUGHTER YOU GUYS!

YOU... YOU REALLY WANNA DO THIS?!

WHY?!

WHY?

UHHH, SO?

WHA-AAA-AT?!

WE KNOW HIRATSUKA-SAN'S THE TEAM SUPERHERO. HE CAN THROW A 150 KM/H FASTBALL...

D-DON'T THINK YOU CAN FOOL US... WE KNOW HOW THINGS WORK AROUND HERE.

I DUNNO...

UH... WHAT'S GOING ON, HERE?

...AND HE RULES NIKOGAKU FROM THE SHADOWS!!

THAT'S HILA-RIOUS !!
BWAA-AAA HA HA HA HA HA!!
WHAT THE FUCK'S THIS KID TALKING ABOUT?!

YOU ARE SO, SO, SO CONFUSED!
OH MAN, YOU GUYS ARE SO SAD!
GYAHA HAHA HA!

HOO HOO HOO HOO! MY STOMACH IS KILLING ME!
THE RULER! FROM THE SHA-DOWS!
HIRATSUKA, SECRET TYRANT OF THE SCHOOL!

GYA HAHA HAHA!

.....

SO, THE GUY THEY SAID THEY LOOKED UP TO WAS HIRATSUKA...

BWAHAHAHA! HAVE YOU GUYS EVEN SEEN THIS "150 KM/H" FASTBALL?

LISTEN UP, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT KINDA THRONE HE SITS ON. OUT OF THE TEN PEOPLE ON THIS TEAM, HIRATSUKA IS THE ONLY ONE SPECIAL ENOUGH TO SIT HIS FAT ASS ON THE BENCH.

THE DUDE CAN'T EVEN THROW A STRIKE!

.....

GYA HA HA HA!

IF YOU WANT TO STICK AROUND AND WATCH, FEEL FREE. HIRATSUKA'LL BE HERE SOON.

MAN, THAT WAS JUST PLAIN HILARIOUS.

.....

YOU'RE LYING. .

.....

HUFF.

HUFF.

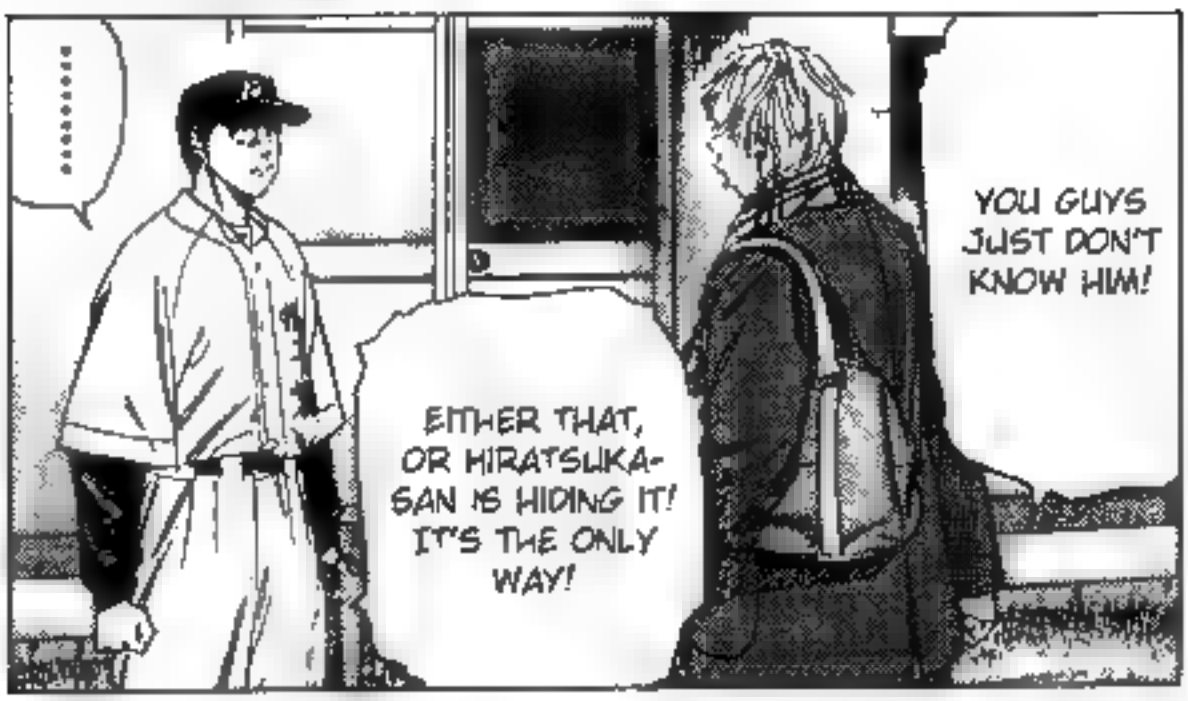
WE'VE GOT BIGGER PROBLEMS NOW, FOOL!

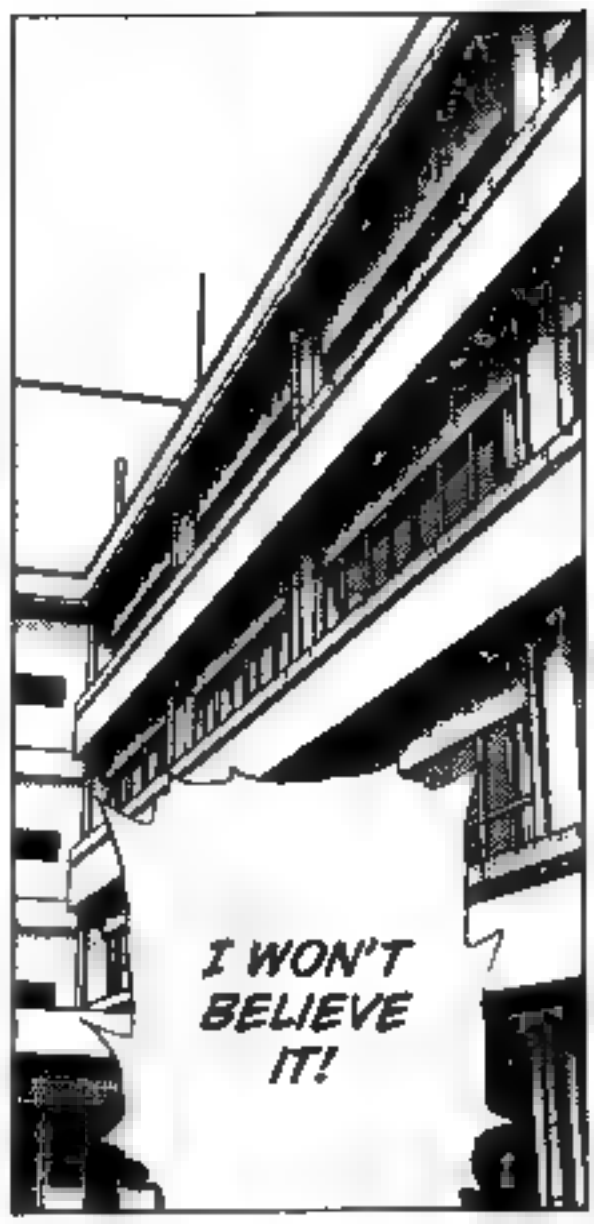
A-ARE WE REALLY LEAVING, H RACCHI?

WHAT ABOUT PRACTICE?

YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO MAKE YOUR-SELVES LOOK BETTER!!

YOU GUYS ARE LYING!


.....
EITHER THAT, OR HIRATSUKA-SAN IS HIDING IT! IT'S THE ONLY WAY!
YOU GUYS JUST DON'T KNOW HIM!


I WON'T BELIEVE IT!

I SAW HIRATSUKA-SAN PERFORM A MIRACLE WITH MY OWN EYES.
I SAW IT. .

MY HABIT OF BEATING UP OLD GUYS FOR MONEY BACKFIRED, AND HE SAVED ME.

MIRACLE . .?

IT WAS ABOUT THIS TIME, ONE YEAR AGO..
ON ANOTHER COLD DAY LIKE THIS ONE. .

AAGH!

YOU WANT ME TO DRAG YOU INTO MY AGENCY'S OFFICE?

URRPH!

UGH ..

URRGH ..

HUH? LOOK AT ME, YOU LITTLE SHIT!

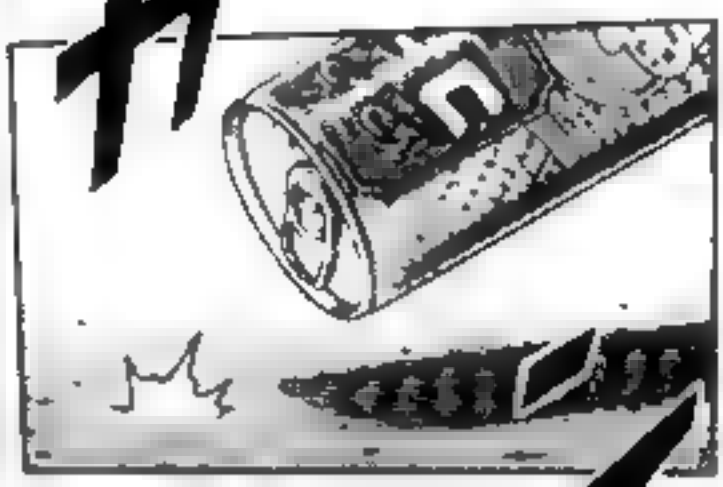
WHY DON'T YOU PICK YOUR TARGETS A BIT BETTER?

BLEGH!

COFF!

YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME WHO YOUR PARENTS ARE, BEFORE YOU DIE

ON YOUR FEET.



HE WAS ABOUT 20 METERS AWAY.

I TOLD PEOPLE, BUT THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE ME.

WHO CAN HIT A PERSON'S HEAD WITH A CAN OF JUICE AT THAT RANGE?

.....

AFTER THAT, I HEARD ALL ABOUT HOW AWESOME HIRATSUKA-SAN IS.

.....

MY LIFE WAS SAVED BY A LONG-HAIRED HIRATSUKA-SAN!

I STILL SAW IT, THOUGH! IT'S ALL TRUE!

THAT WHEN SAMMY SOSA CAME TO JAPAN AND FACED OFF AGAINST HIM, HE HIT A HOME RUN BUT HE STILL CALLED IT A "MIRACLE!"

THAT HE WAS ALREADY THROWING 140 KM/H, TOPS, IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...

THAT HE COULDN'T EVEN PLAY ON HIS MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM BECAUSE HE WAS TOO GOOD...

COME ON, TELL ME I'M RIGHT!

DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT!

.....

OH YEAH, AND THE ONLY REASON YOUR WRECK OF A TEAM GOT ITS ACT TOGETHER WAS BECAUSE OF HIM!

AND THERE'S MORE THAN JUST BASEBALL! HE'S A CRAZY TOUGH BRAWLER AND HE GETS ALL THE LADIES..

WHAT'S UP?

.....

.....

YOUR CRAPPY-ASS BASEBALL TEAM WAS VISITED BY THE TOUCH OF A MESSIAH!

THE TOUCH OF YOUR ACE PITCHER!

THAT'S SO WEIRD.

.....

HUH? UMM, NO. WHY?

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIRATSUKA-KUN ABOUT BEING ABSENT TODAY, HAVE YOU?

.....

HUH? UMM... YES.

A-ARE YOU THE TEAM MANAGER?!

I COULD HAVE SWORN THE TWO PEOPLE I SAW GETTING THEIR SHOES AT THE FRONT LOCKERS WERE HIRATSUKA-KUN AND IMAOKA-KUN.

I WAS RIGHT!

I . I THINK 150 MIGHT BE PUSHING IT MAYBE 145, ON A GOOD DAY ..

HUH.. ?

THEN YOU AGREE! THIS TEAM DOES HAVE AN ACE PITCHER THAT THROWS 150 KM/H!

HUH? WAIT..

BY THE FRONT DOOR, YOU SAID?

IF YOU'RE THE MANAGER... THEN YOU'RE H S GIRL-FRIEND.

OH... RIGHT!

HUH. .?

GIRL-FRIEND...?

OH YUCK! WHERE'D YOU GET THAT IDEA?

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

.....

.....

HIRA-TSUKA. . KUN?

WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT?

GYAHA HAHA! YOU CAN'T HIDE IT!

THAT'S MY HIRA-TSUKA-SAN!!

YEAAAAH! I KNEW IT!

GYAHA HAHAHA!

I DON'T EVEN GET IT! I CAN'T IMAGINE HIRATSUKA WITH LONG HAIR IN THE FIRST PLACE!

HOW THE HELL COULD HIRATSUKA DO THAT?

I-I KNOW, BUT HE SEEMED REALLY SERIOUS...

PLUS, A CAN OF JUICE? FOR REAL?

.....

HE SAVED HIYAMA AND YOU FROM THE KID AND HIS FRIENDS, RIGHT? THEY REALLY LOOK UP TO HIM.

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ALL THAT CRAP JUST ON WORD ALONE.

IF THAT KID REALLY THINKS HE'S THE "SHADOW RULER" OF OUR SCHOOL, HE MUST BE SERIOUSLY CONVINCED.

WHOA.

GYAHAHA! I DON'T BLAME HIM; HE GOT SAVED FROM A BUNCH OF MIDDLE SCHOOLERS BY HIRATSUKA!

YOU HAVEN'T BROKEN YOUR SILENCE ABOUT YESTERDAY, HIYAMA.

YOU CAN'T DISMISS IT OUT OF HAND! THE ONLY TIME HE *DID* PITCH IN THAT GAME AGAINST YOGA, ALL HE DID WAS ONE BALK. WE'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN HIM THROW.

NOPE. NOT POSSIBLE.

BUT SERIOUSLY, YOU GUYS... WHAT *IF* HIRATSUKA IS A CRAZY GOOD PITCHER?

GYAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA!

JUST KIDDING!

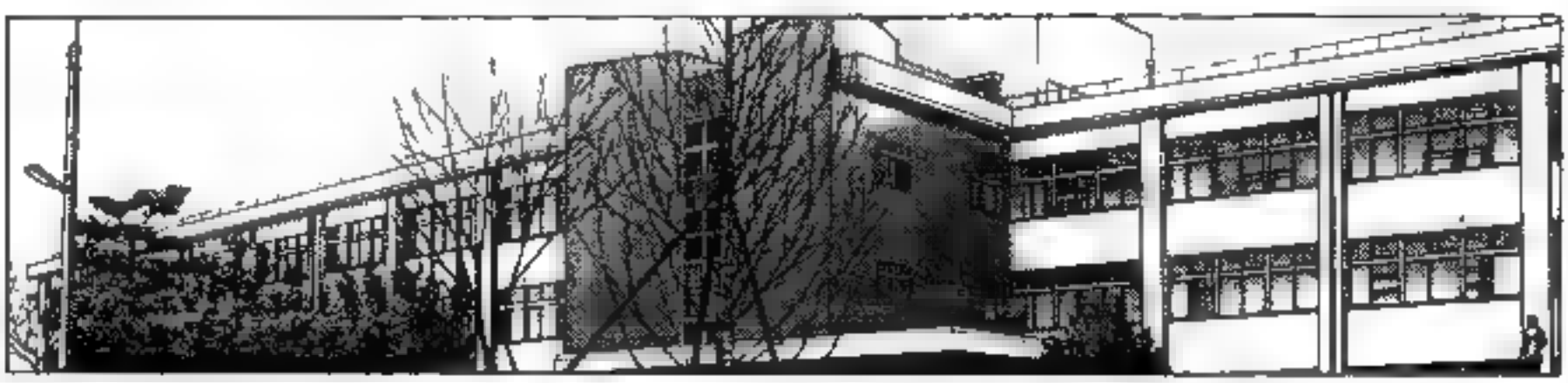
WHAT *IF*, YOU GUYS...?

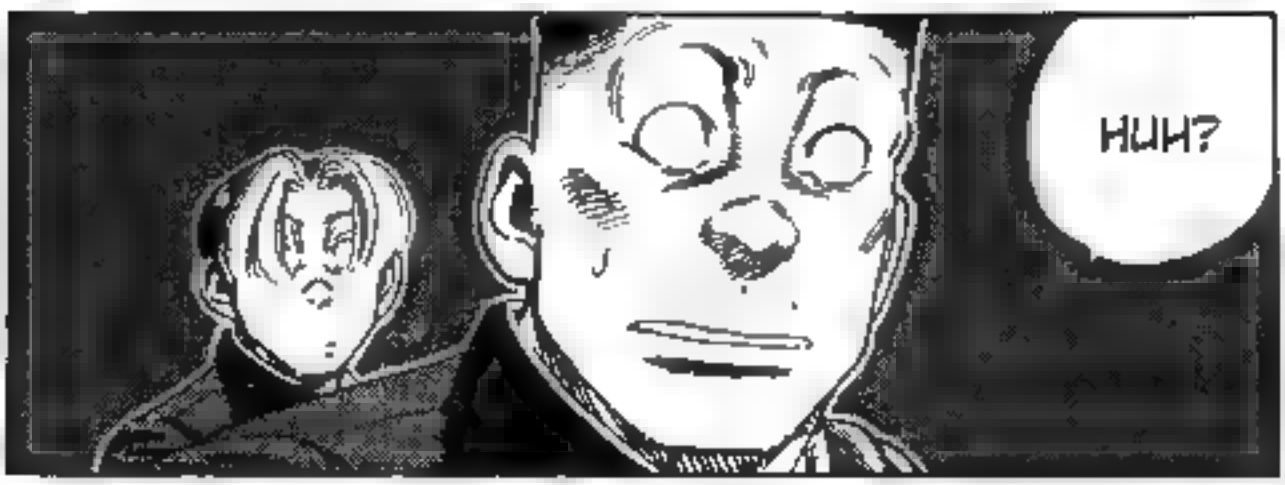
AND WE *DID* SEE HIM HIT A CRAZY-ASS GRAND SLAM.

SHUT UP, ALREADY!
HEH! HE'S FEELIN' THE PRESSURE OF A RIVAL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING MAN?

HIYAMA...
YEOW

BRING HIRATSUKA OUT HERE.





I CAME TO SEE YOU KICK SOME ASS, HIRATSUKA-SAN!

I WISH YOU HADN'T!!

HIRA-TSUKA-SAAAN!

HUH?

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?!

HUH? NO... WAIT A MINUTE!

BUT I KNOW THE TRUTH! I KNOW YOU'RE JUST HIDING YOUR STRENGTHS!

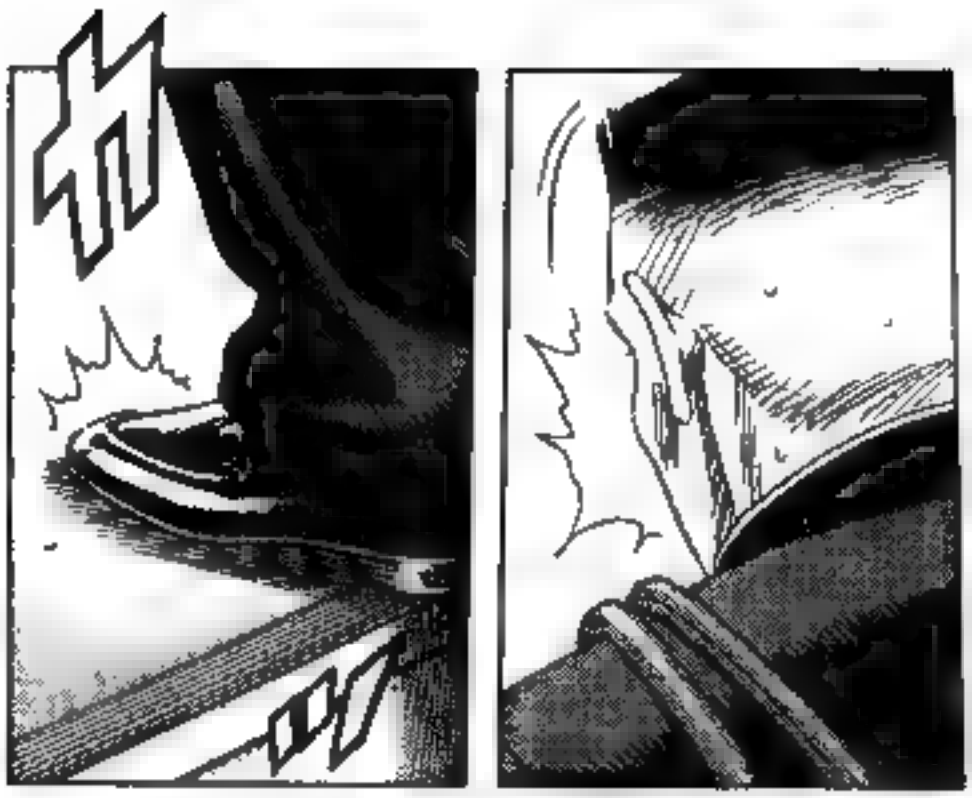
EVERYONE ELSE THINKS I'M LYING ABOUT YOU, HIRATSUKA-SAN!!

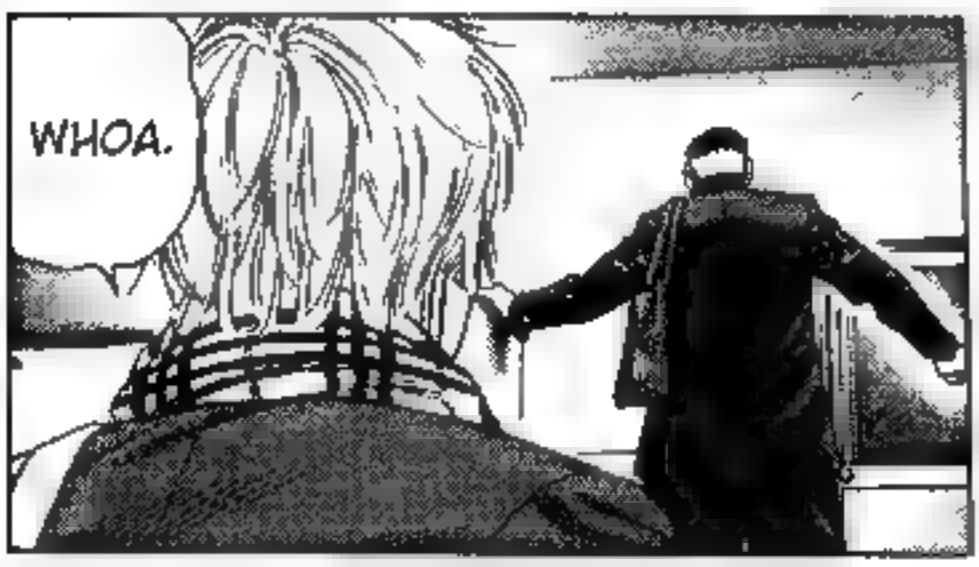
.....

I DON'T GET IT, HIRATSUKA-SAN!

I KNOW HOW AMAZING YOU REALLY ARE! SO WHY?!

YOU SHOULD SHOW THEM WHAT YOU CAN DO, AND SHUT THOSE JERKS UP FOR GOOD!




WHOA.

YOU KNOW WHY? BECAUSE I BET SHE'S TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH YOU!
BUT ONLY ONE PERSON BELIEVED ME, AND THAT WAS THE MANAGER! SHE BELIEVES IN YOU!

BET YOUR ASS WE ARE.

H . HIRA-TSUKA-SAN?
C'MON, WE'RE GONNA GO SHOW THOSE GUYS UP!

Vol.137 The Sardine's Head Is Revealed

SEE, GUYS? I TOLD YOU IT WASN'T TRUE.

SEE? I KNEW IT!

B-BUT HE STILL HIT THE GUY WITH A CAN OF JUICE, RIGHT?

GYAHAHA HAHA!

OH, THAT'S NOT TRUE.

今

IT HAPPENED ON A FREEZING COLD DAY.

ACTUALLY, IT DOES.

SO WHAT? THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

JUICE? NO, I THINK IT WAS A CAN OF CORN SOUP.

IT'S FREEZING, IMAOKA.

WHY DON'T YOU BUTTON UP YOUR COLLAR?

BRRR, I'M COLD.

THIS STRIKES ME AS THE PERFECT DAY TO SIP ON A WARM CAN OF CORN SOUP.

BRRR, IT'S COLD.

THUNK

*120

*120

Nice 'n Warm

BEEP

OHO!

AHHHH, NOW THAT'S ..

OH, WHAT THE FUCK! WHO WANTS A FREEZING COLD CORN SOUP?!

THE MACHINE'S HEATER MUST BE BROKEN.

FREE-EEEE-EZING !!

WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?!

...FOR THIS BULL-SHIT!

HEY, DON'T WASTE IT!

IT'S TOO DAMN COLD

OH.

WHOA-AA.

OH MAN, HE FELL OVER!

H-HOLY SHIT, HIRACCHI!

Y-YOU HIT SOME-BODY!

HMM.

OH MY GOD!

WOWWW !!

H-HOLY CRAP...

UH... WHAT?

SOMEHOW, HE ENDED UP BEING THE SHADOWY RULER OF NIKOGAKU, WITH TOKO-CHAN AS HIS GIRL-FRIEND.

AND EVER SINCE THAT POINT, HE JUST PUMPED THAT KID FULL OF STORIES.

.....

HE'S TOTALLY DREAMING OF BEING A GUY THAT EVERYONE FEARS AND RESPECTS, JUST LIKE HIS HERO, HIRACCHI.

AND NOW HAMANAKA TOTALLY THINKS HIRACCHI IS LIKE SOME KIND OF GOD.

Vol.137

The Sardine's Head Is Revealed

DAAAA-AAAAAA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

YOU KNOW HE DOESN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF CONTROL!

DUDE, I TOTALLY FIGURED THAT WAS IT!

MAN, THIS HAMANAKA KID IS TOTALLY NAIVE!

SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED ..

GYA HAHA HAHA HAHA!

H"

ENOUGH LAUGHING.

I CAN'T DO IT! I CAN'T STAND THIS! IT'S TOO STUPID!

WHAT A SHITTY DREAM TO HAVE!

GYA HAHA HAHA!

IF THAT'S WHAT THEY BELIEVE IN. HIRATSUKA WAS A HERO TO THIS KID THE FIRST TIME THEY MET. WHY NOT LET HIM CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT?

AS THE SAYING GOES, PEOPLE WILL EVEN WORSHIP A SARDINE'S HEAD,

BUT IT'S *HIRATSUKA.*

.....

I HEARD WHAT YOU JUST SAID.

KAWATO.

DON'T LAUGH AT OTHER PEOPLE'S DREAMS.

YOU GUYS WOULD BE MAD IF SOMEONE LAUGHED AT YOUR DREAM OF THE KOSHIEN.

I WOULDN'T BE MAD, I'D KILL HIM.

AND I BET YOU'D KILL ANYONE WHO LAUGHED AT YOUR DREAM OF BEING A STARTING MEMBER.

YUFUINE!

HA HA HA!

THAT'S THE POWER OF DREAMS.

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT USING HIRATSUKA AS A GOAL WILL HELP THIS YOUNG MAN WORK HARD AND EVENTUALLY ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS.

ptu

IT'S JUST A JOKE, MAN. DON'T GET MAD

HANG ON.

WHY? IS THERE SOME KIND OF PROBLEM?

THE PROBLEM IS, I DON'T KNOW IF WE CAN LET HIM BELIEVE IT

WELL, THE GUY'S HERE ON THE CAMPUS.

1

THE ACE ALWAYS WEARS HIS GAME UNI. ALWAYS.

WOW, LOOK AT THAT #1! IT'S BRILLIANT!

BUT ISN'T THAT.. YOUR GAME UNIFORM?

HELL, I WAS **MEANT** TO WEAR THIS UNIFORM FROM THE START!

HEH. I'M IN THE CLEAR, BECAUSE ANIYA ALREADY LEFT, FOR SOME REASON.

1

ALL RIGHT, HAMA-NAKA! LET'S GO!

YEAAAH!

WHO STROKED THE MIRACLE BOMB THAT WON THE MEGUROGAWA GAME? OH, JUST ME.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO DO ANYTHING WHEN I SET MY MIND TO IT!

UHH, WHAT'S UP, HIRATSUKA-SAN?

AND ONLY TOKO-CHAN REALIZES IT! SHE KNOWS THE INFINITE TALENT I HARBOR, AND THE FACT THAT THIS NUMBER WILL SOON BELONG TO ME!

HE HAD A DENTIST'S APPOINTMENT.

HEY, WHERE'S ANYA?

YEAH, EARLIER.

SO HE LEFT?

AND HE'S GOT THAT KID WITH HIM.

WELL, THERE HE IS...

UGH . HE'S WEARING A GAME UNIFORM, TOO.

YO, SORRY ABOUT THE WAIT

MMM?

W-WELL, HERE WE GO.

UH, RIGHT

W-
WHOAA.

.....

I KNEW IT... THEY TALK SHIT ABOUT HIM BEHIND HIS BACK, BUT THEY DON'T DARE DO IT TO HIS FACE...

AFTERNOON.

AFTERNOON.

!

NA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

HA HA..

.....

BFFT!

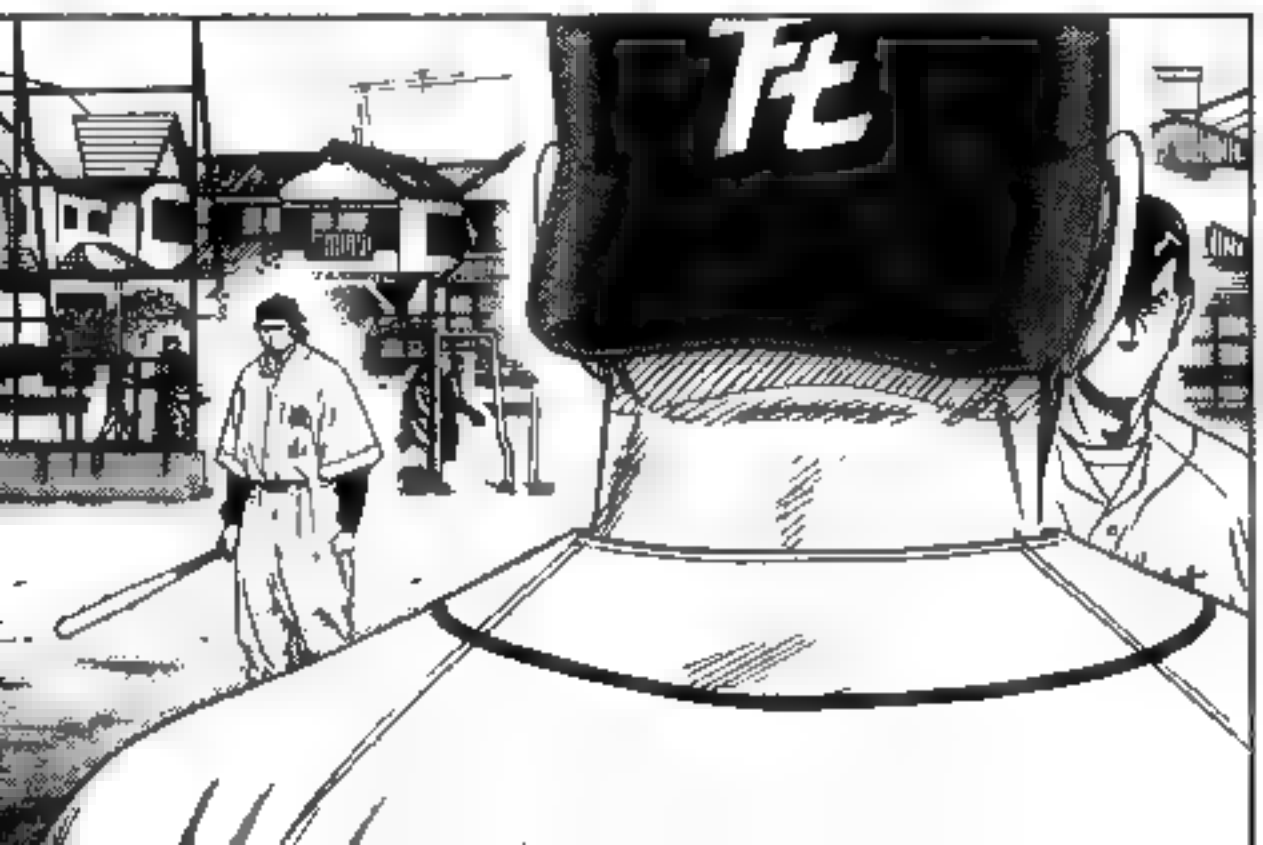
TAKE IT EASY, FOLKS.
UGH...
GYA HA HA HA!

HA HA HA HA..
HA HA...

HA HA HA! DON'T BE SO UPTIGHT!
I SEE, NOW! YOU WERE ALL WAITING FOR ME!
WHAT THE HELL? WHAT ARE THEY DOING...?

WHAT? YOU JUST SAID TO RELAX AND TAKE MY TIME!
I'M AFRAID YOU CAN'T BE AROUND FOR LONG.
ARE YOU IN MIDDLE SCHOOL? WE PROHIBIT VISITS UNTIL THE SPRING.

AHEM.



HMM?

TH-
THAT'S THE
GUY FROM
YESTERDAY.

SENSEI'S
GONNA
MAKE THE
KID LEAVE
SOON, SO WE
JUST HAVE TO
KEEP UP THE
ACT UNTIL
HE'S GONE...

SHUT UP.

C-
COME ON,
HIYAMA!

WE ALL
DECIDED
ON IT!

ARE YOU
SERIOUS?
AGAIN?!

WHAT
?!

WHO DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
ORDERING
AROUND?!

IF I SWING
AND MISS,
YOU W.I.N.
ONE PITCH.

THROW
TO ME,
HIRATSUKA.

I WILL GRANT YOUR REQUEST.

VERY WELL.

WAIT, WHY ARE YOU GETTING ALL PUMPED?

WELL? ARE YOU GONNA DO IT, OR NOT?!

WE'RE JUST TRYING TO..

YEAH. YOU TAKE OVER SHORTSTOP, WAKANA.

WHAT? ARE YOU CATCHING, SENSEI?

LOOKS FUN.

LET'S GO CHECK IT OUT.

THEY'RE HAVING SOME SHOW-DOWN.

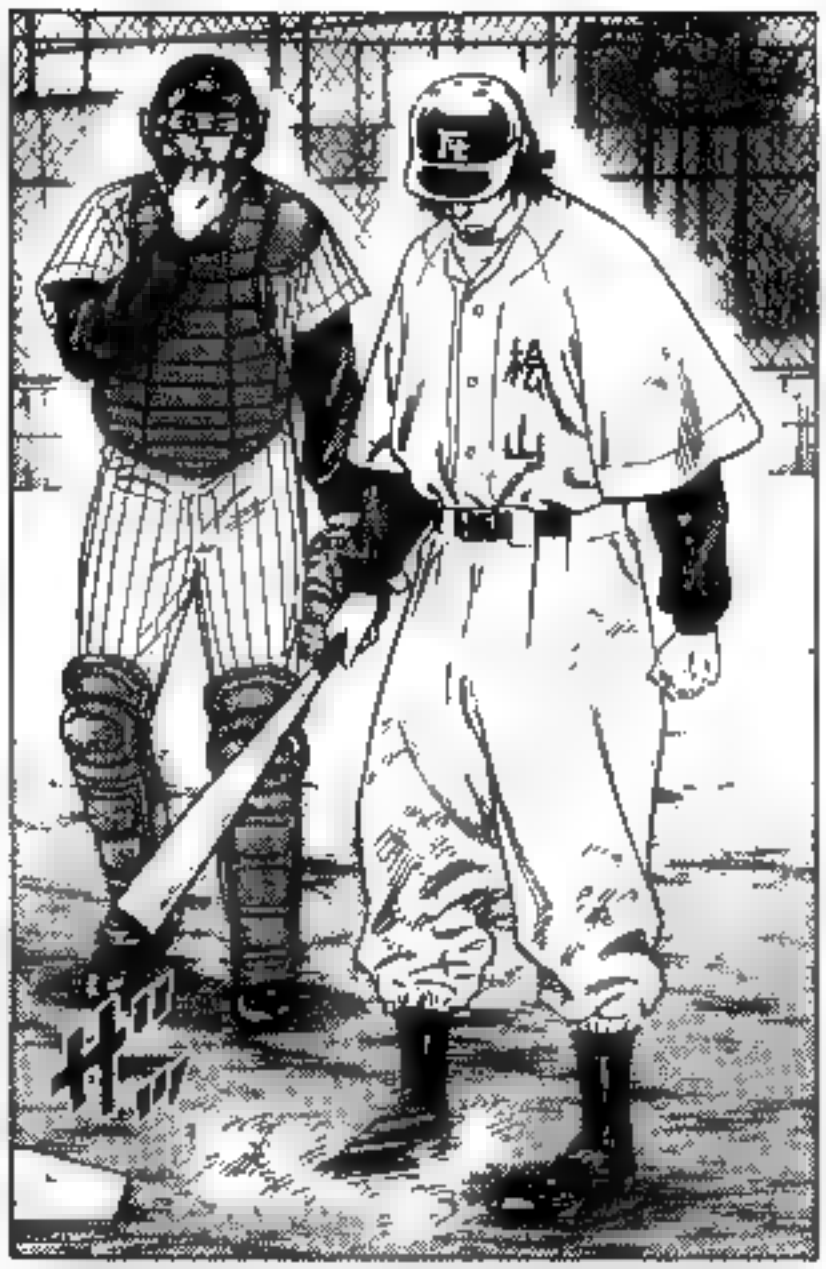
WHAT THE-?

IS THAT HIRATSUKA, PITCHING?

ARE YOU REALLY TRYING TO GET A HIT?

OF COURSE I AM.

I'M GONNA CRUSH THE BALL.



FINALLY, I GET TO SEE HIRA-TSUKA-SAN PITCHING, IN THE FLESH...

HEH HEH. .

HERE WE GO!

LET'S GO, THEN!

YYYYYY...

YEY!!

HA HA HA HAAAAA! YOU'RE RIGHT! THAT WAS FUNNY! JUST A JOKE!
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY!

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?! I'LL KILL YOU!

PFFFF!

GYAHA HAHA!

.....

GYAHA HAHA HA!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING PITCHING, ANYWAY?!

WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?!

BRING OUT ANIYA-KUN!

WHA...?

WAY TO PITCH, JACKASS!

A.. ANIYA..?

D-DAMMIT, THEY'RE BLOWING OUR COVER...

SHUT UP!

.....

YEAH, WHERE'S ANIYA?!

ANIYAAA!

SHIT!

YEY!

GYA HAHA HA!

.....

W-WHAT'S GOING ON.. AREN'T YOU THE ACE?

HIRA-TSUKA-SAN. ?

!

OH! THERE'S ANIYA-KUN!

GYAHA HAHA HA!

HE CAN'T THROW IT OVER THE PLATE!

WHOA!

JUST SWING AT ONE, HIYAMA!

OH NO, THAT IDIOT.

ACK...

HEY! WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, WEARING MY UNIFORM?!

.....

SO MUCH FOR THAT..

!

NGGH.

YOU DON'T GET TO WEAR THE ACE PITCHER'S NUMBER, JACKASS!

HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT! HE'S WEARING ANIYA'S UNIFORM!

GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!

Vol.138 Snapper

DAMMIT, MAN, WE ALMOST HAD OUR ACT FINISHED!

SHHH, DON'T SHOUT IT!

ACT?

HEY, WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ACT...?

ACT...?

HUH?

HEY, ALLA YOU! SHUT YOUR TRAPS AND WATCH!

WHOA.

WE'RE HAVING A COMPETITION HERE!

GET OUTTA HERE!

.....

LEAVE, JERK!

HIYAMA...

ptu

GRR

.....

WHAT KIND?

HUH? COM-PETITION?

KEI-CHAN...

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO SHOW UP, KEI-CHAN?

BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY CAN'T I THROW STRIKES? I THOUGHT I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AGENIUS...

OH CRAP... N-NO. I'M STILL COOL. AS LONG AS I CAN STRIKE HIM OUT, I'LL LOOK ALL RIGHT...

WELL, SHIT...

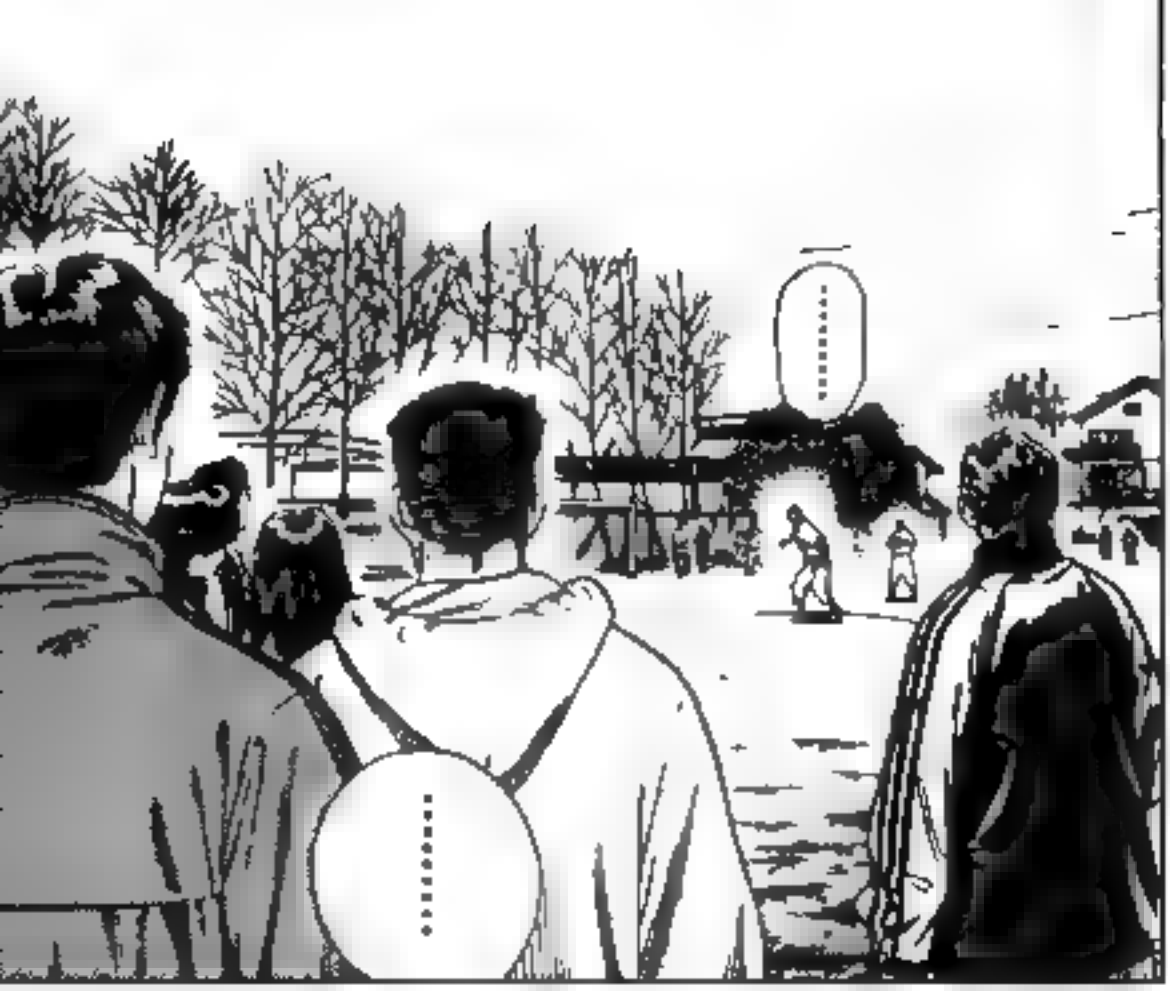
WHY AM I FIGHTING OVER A STARTING POSITION WITH A PIECE OF SHIT LIKE HIM?

SCREW THIS...

WHOA!

H'' H''

URYA-AAH!


.....
.....

YEAH, FORGET THIS.
LET'S GO, MAN.
I CAN'T WATCH THIS FARCE.
asics

YOU FEELIN' OUT OF SORTS OR SOMETHING?
YOU AREN'T YOUR NORMAL SELF TODAY, HIRA-TSUKA.

.....

THIS SURE SUCKS! I'M NOT LOOKING GOOD IN FRONT OF MY LITTLE BUD!
OH, YEAH! I'M JUST NOT MYSELF

HUH?

DOESN'T MATTER WHAT ELSE, AS LONG AS I GET A STRIKE.

BOTTOM LINE IS, I'VE GOT TO THROW A STRIKE.

GREAT. WITH HIRATSUKA THROWING LIKE THIS, THE WHOLE RUSE IS RUINED.

.....

IT'S NOT FOR HIRATSUKA'S SAKE. IT'S FOR THAT YOUNG BOY'S DREAMS.

WHAT AN ASSHOLE!

WHY ARE WE PUTTING ON AN ACT FOR THIS JERK'S SAKE, ANYWAY?

WE MADE THE WRONG CHOICE.

I FIGURED A LITTLE WHITE LIE WOULDN'T HURT ANYTHING, AND WE COULD PULL IT OFF.

BUT THIS TRICKERY ISN'T THE RIGHT WAY TO DO IT, AFTER ALL.

KEH.

WELL, HE CAN'T THROW IT ACCURATELY ANY OTHER WAY!

HE LOBBED IT!

HO!

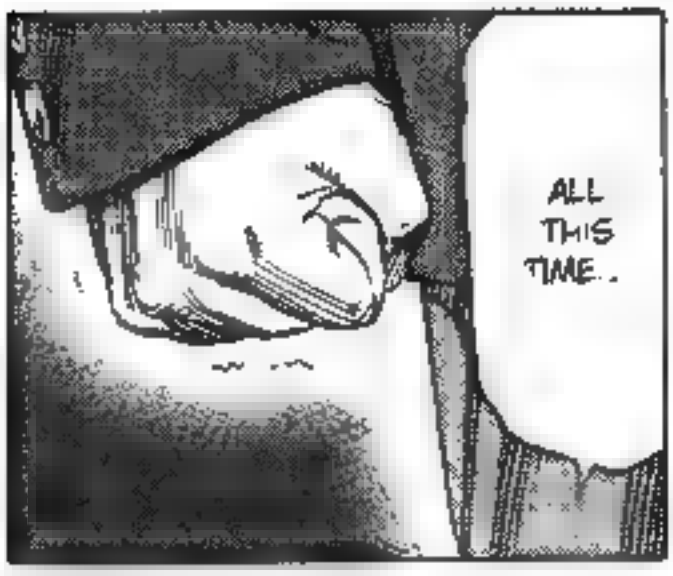
.....

WHOA!

F..

FOUL BALL...

HA-
YOW...
H.


ALL
THIS
TIME..

HUH?
H-HAVE
YOU BEEN
FOOLING
ME..?

.....

YOU'VE
BEEN
FOOLING
ME ALL
THIS
DAMN
TIME!!

YOU AIN'T THE ACE! YOU AIN'T SHIT!!

SCREW THIS BULLSHIT, MAN!

TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY, DAMMIT!

THIS AIN'T HOW YOU ALWAYS PITCH!

QUIT PLAYING AROUND!

.....

KEH.

HIYAMA...

THIS IS BULL-SHIT.

GET SERIOUS, YOU FUCKING BABY!!

WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE FACING?!

HIYAMA...

.....

.....

.....

U-RYA-AAA-AA!

GIMME THE BALL, SAWAJO! HURRY UP!

BACK HERE!

NEXT PITCH IS COMING

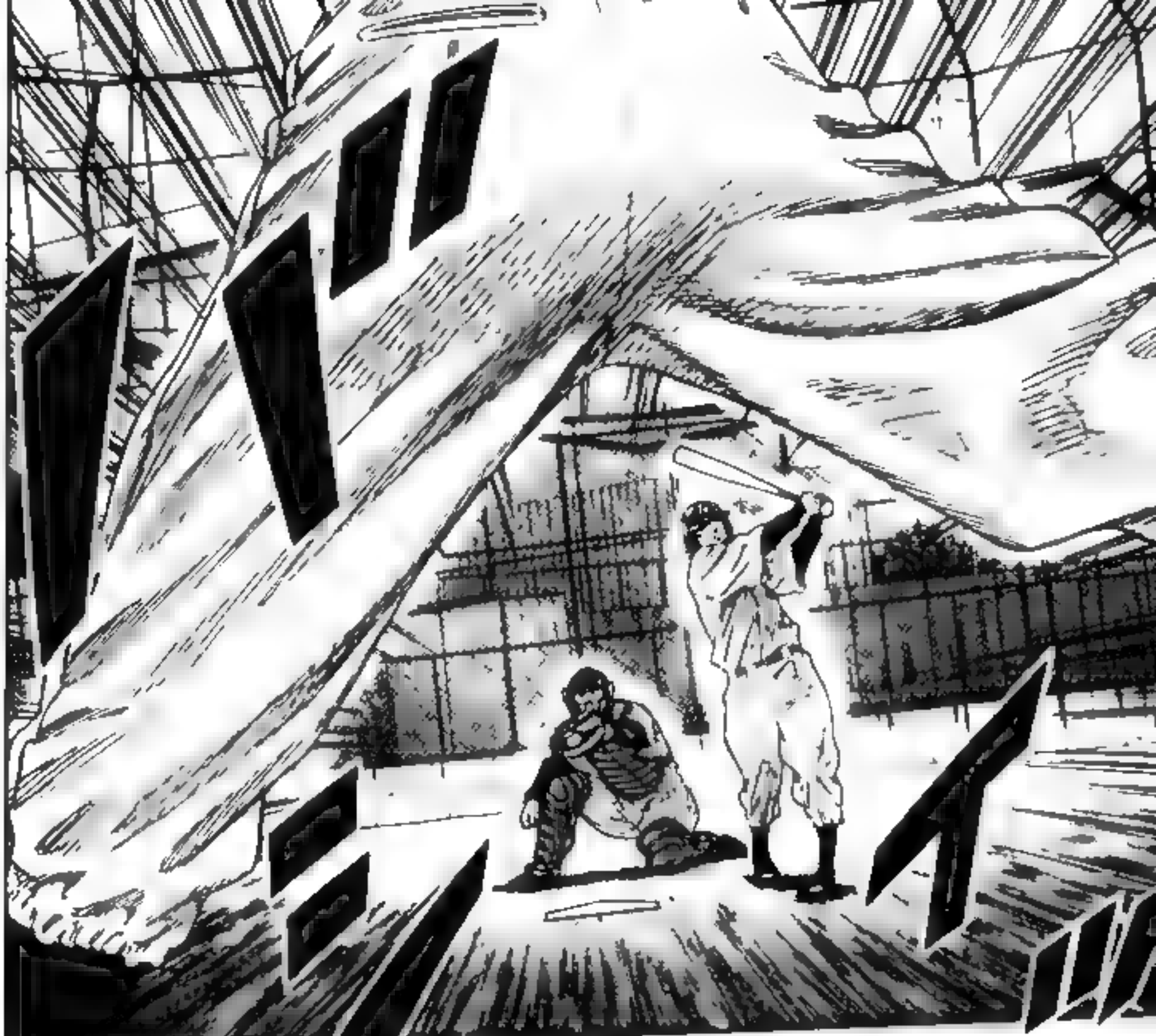
SIT DOWN.

HIYAMA, WHY DID YOU

IF ANYONE'S GONNA FIGHT WITH ME OVER A STARTING JOB, HE BETTER HAVE MLB TALENT.

I CAN'T STAND THE FACT THAT PEOPLE THINK I SHOULD BE A RIVAL WITH A CLOWN LIKE HIM.

YAAA-AAH!



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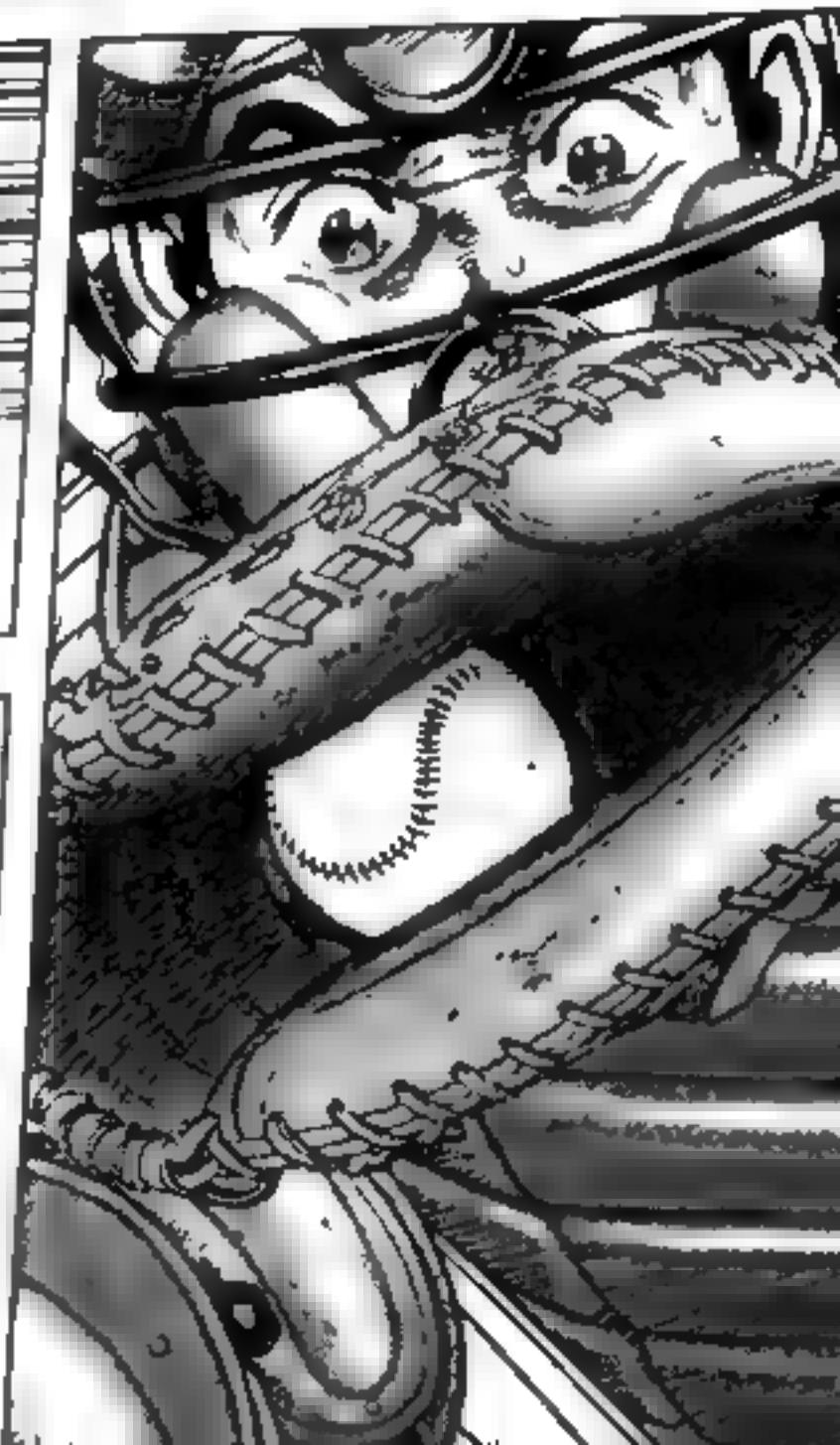


WHOA..

GOD...

...DAM-MIT!

CRAZY!

DAAA-AAMN!

WHAT KIND OF PITCH WAS THAT?!

THAT'S THE TRUE FORM OF YOUR MASTER! REAL HIRATSUKA, IN THE HOUSE!

DID YOU SEE THAT PITCH?!

FWA HA HA..

HA HA..

HA HA HA HA HA HA!

YEAH, ME! I'M THE BEST!

WHEN I SET MY MIND TO IT, THIS IS WHAT I ACCOMPLISH!

YOU SEE THAT, HAMA-NAKA?!

DID HE MISS ON PURPOSE ...?

FWA HAHA HA!

.....

HUH?

YOU KNOW HE WOULDN'T PULL THAT NOW

THESE GUYS ARE DEAD SERIOUS.

GYA HA HA HA HA!

DOWN UNTIL THEY SCRAPE THE GROUND!

LOWER YOUR HEADS!

NAHA HAHA HA!

HEY! YOU GUYS AREN'T SHOWING ME THE PROPER RESPECT, I FEEL!

HEY, KID...

若芝

.....

HAMANA-KAAAA!

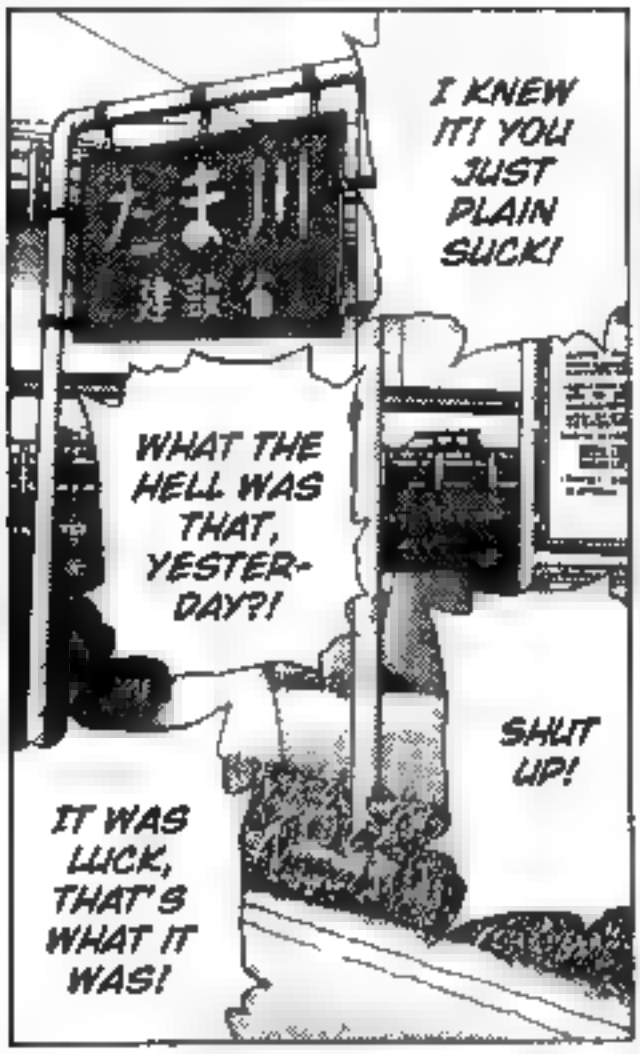
WAIT, HAMANAKA!

DON'T JUST RUN AWAY!

GRRR.

RYA-AAA!

NWAA-AAHH!

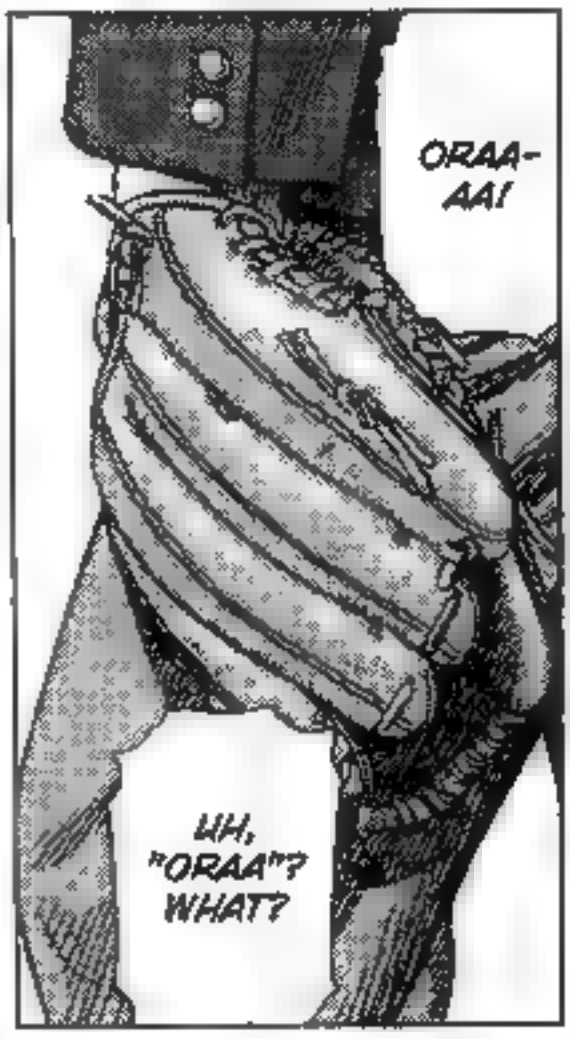

I KNEW IT! YOU JUST PLAIN SUCK!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT, YESTER-DAY?!
SHUT UP!
IT WAS LUCK, THAT'S WHAT IT WAS!

WHOA!
HMM?!

GYA HAHA HA!
HEY, IT'S BETTER FOR THAT KID TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH EARLY, Y'KNOW?

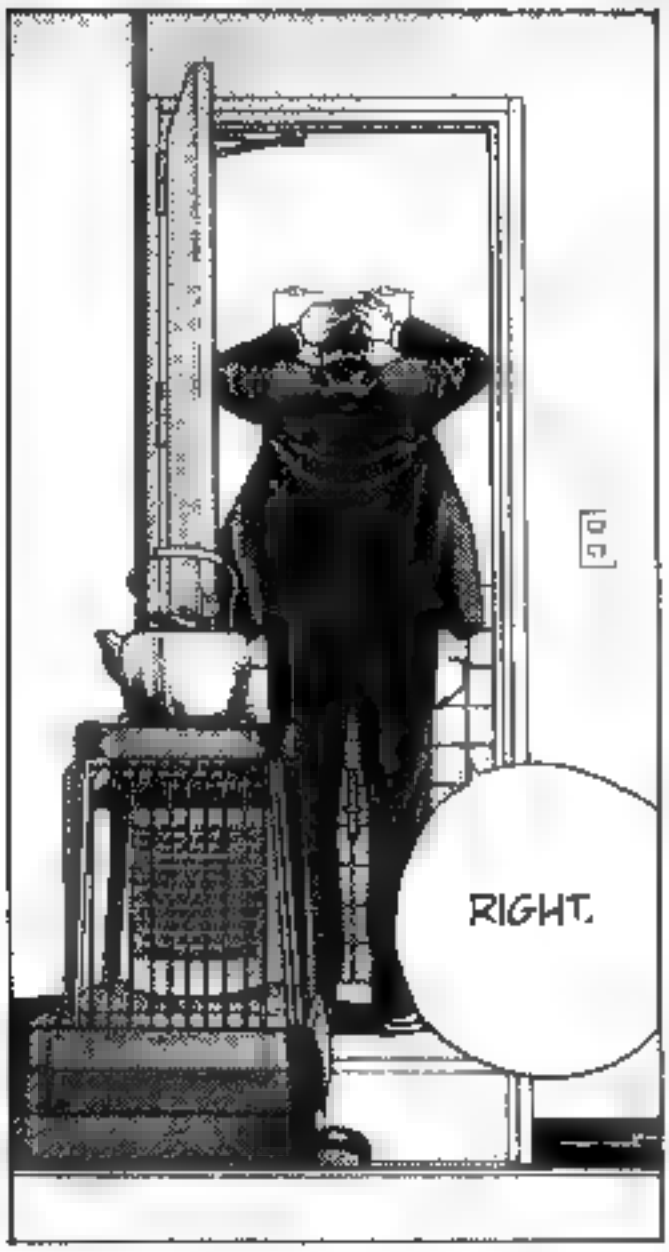
BET HE WAS SO SHOCKED, HE STAYED HOME IN BED.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT KID FROM YESTER-DAY?

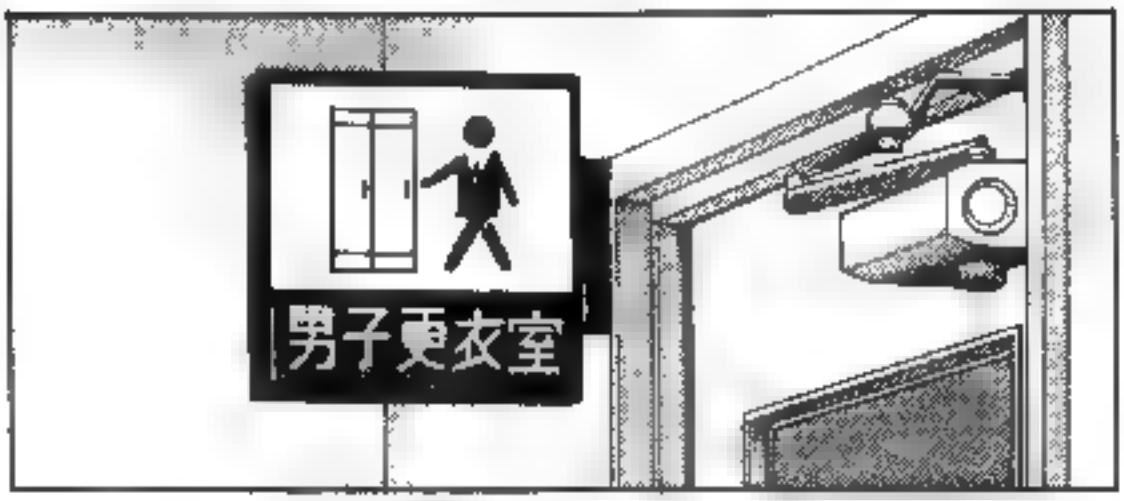
GO HOME, ALREADY!
COME ON, JUST THROW IT OVER THE PLATE!
WHAT?!
GYA HAHA HA!


ORAA-AA!
UH, "ORAA"? WHAT?

Vol. 139

The Pigeon and Crow Respect Their Elders





Sign: Men's Changing Room

H-HEY, GUYS!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!

BWAAA-AAAAHA HA HA HA HA!!

HMM?

カチ

D-DON'T TOUCH IT! THIS IS A RENTAL!

GYA HA HA HA HA!

WHAT ARE YOU *THINKING*, MAN?! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE LOOK MORE OUT OF PLACE!

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW THE GRADUATES FEEL ON THIS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT DAY. IT'S VERY, VERY SPECIAL.

I GUESS I DON'T!

DON'T BE SILLY.

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU HAVE TO GET ALL GUSSIED UP FOR A GRADUATION CEREMONY. JUST DRESS YOUR NORMAL WAY

YOU LOOK LIKE SHIT.

ON MY GRADUATION DAY, I EVEN CRIED AND HUGGED THE TEACHER I HATED MORE THAN ANYTHING

EVEN THE ROUGHEST THUGS CAN LOOK BACK ON THEIR GRADUATION DAY AND REALIZE HOW THEY'VE BEEN FORMED BY THE PEOPLE THEY MET OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS.

THANKS?

THEY FEEL THANKS.

AS THE SAYING GOES, "IN PRACTICING THE RULES OF PROPRIETY, A NATURAL EASE IS TO BE PRIZED."

AND IT'S THE TEACHERS' JOB TO HELP THEM FEEL THAT SENSE OF GRATITUDE.

AND I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE YOU WILL, AFTER THREE YEARS HERE.

NO, YOU WILL. YOU'LL WANT TO GIVE THANKS FOR *EVERY* PERSON YOU'VE MET

I DON'T THINK ANYONE THESE DAYS CARES ABOUT CRAP LIKE THAT.

I'M PRETTY SURE I'M *NOT* GONNA BE GRATEFUL TO KAKEFU.

OH, BUT THEY DO AND SO WILL YOU, WHEN YOU GRADUATE.

SENSE! ...

YOU'VE ALREADY GOT PLENTY OF GRATITUDE FROM ME,

HEH HEH.

MY GOD, I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH PATRONIZING HOGWASH.

IN THAT CASE, I'LL COME TO *YOUR* GRADUATION IN A FULL FORMAL KIMONO WITH MY FAMILY CREST AND EVERYTHING!

QUIET!

EX-CUSE ME?!

AAAH! W-WHO ARE YOU?!

GYAHAHA-HAHA! SEE?! YOU LOOK TERRIBLE!

WHAAA?!

HEY! WHO'S THAT?!

AND THERE'S NO CLUB ACTIVITY ALLOWED IN THE MORNING.

FIRST-YEARS ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE DAY OFF.

!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

WAKA-NA!

SHUT THE F...

HMPH.

.....

WE WANTED THE RIFF-RAFF LIKE YOU OUT OF THE WAY, BECAUSE THERE ARE PTA MEMBERS AND DIGNITARIES ARRIVING EN MASSE. NOW CLEAR OUT.

FOR EVERYONE'S SAKE, JUST DON'T GET HELD BACK AN EXTRA YEAR.

JUST THINKING ABOUT DEALING WITH YOU RUFFIANS FOR TWO MORE YEARS IS ENOUGH TO GIVE A MAN DEPRESSION.

FUCK THAT GUY...

ptu

RIGHT? REMEMBER WHAT SENSEI SAID ABOUT BEING THANKFUL FOR *EVERYONE* WE'LL HAVE MET?

I BET... I BET WE'LL EVEN BE GRATEFUL TO *HIM*, BY THEN!

.....

1=B1

.....

I JUST KNOW IT.

TO LOOK BACK ON WHAT YOU LEFT BEHIND IN THE 20TH CENTURY,

AND WHAT YOU WILL LEAVE IN THIS 21ST CENTURY STRETCHING AHEAD

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO SPEND THIS SHINING MOMENT IN YOUR LIVES

THE NEXT HUNDRED YEARS IS A PERIOD THAT *YOU* WILL BE CREATING AND DESCRIBING

SOME PRINCIPAL-LOOKING GUY IS TALKING, IT'S SOOOO BORING.

YEAH, I'M AT MY GRADUA-TION.

FOR LIKE TEN MINUTES ALREADY!

YES, THE FUTURE OF JAPAN IS IN *YOUR* HANDS!

BLEEP-BLOOP-BLEEP

NO WAY REALLY?!

THIS IS THE TIME TO CONSIDER WHAT SHOULD BE DONE & THE SHORT TIME WE HAVE

BLAH BLAH

WHO CARES? JUST BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF THAT WEIRD

IT IS SAID THAT A SHORT LIFE IS MADE SHORTER BY THE WASTE OF TIME

BLAH BLAH

IN SHORT, A *TIME* FOR *TIME* AHEM-HEM-HEM

COME PICK ME UP IN THE CAR WHEN IT'S OVER

BLAH BLAH

WHAT'S USING THAT LAME-ASS RINGTONE?

BLAH BLAH

BLAH BLAH

WHO DO YOU LIKE BETTER HIKARU UTADA OR AMI KURAKI?

I NEED TO TAKE A SHIT

BLAH BLAH

DUDE I'M SO BORED

BLAH BLAH

BEEE-BEE-BEE-BEE

WHY'S IT ALL LOUD, ALL OF A SUDDEN?

LEMME SEE YOUR PHONE!

BWEED-LY-BWEED-LY

BLAH BLAH

NAW HIS NAME'S TORAJIRO, NOT KOJIRO. YOU'RE READING IT WRONG.

KYAHA-HAHA!

IT'S LIKE THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHY THEY'RE HERE..

MY GOD. WHAT *DREADFUL* MANNERS ...

BLAH BLAH

BLAH BLAH

BLAH BLAH

UGH ...

ANYONE GOING TO KARAOKE AFTER THIS IS OVER?

BLAH BLAH

AR-RGH!

PINKY SWEARS! OVER HERE!

GYAHA-HAHA!

BLAH BLAH

W-WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM ...?

.....

BLAH BLAH

A *TIME* FOR *TIME*! HELLO ?!

YOU CAN'T GET INTO KIDS' HEADS THESE DAYS. IF YOU FLIP OUT OVER EVERY LITTLE THING THEY DO, YOU'LL NEVER LAST.

FORGET ABOUT THESE IDIOTS.

ガ"

ワ ン

DON'T BOTHER.

SHIMANO-SENSEI?

YOU CAN'T REACH THEM.

BLAH BLAH

SHUT UP, MAN! I CAN'T HEAR MY PHONE

BLAH BLAH

GYA-HAHA!

AHEM! AND, ER, IN OUR VERY SHORT LIVES, ER... HRRM.

NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN, AND IF ANYTHING *DOES*, IT'S NOT MY FAULT

HMPH WHY ARE THEY *MAKING ME* PATROL THE GROUNDS? THAT SHOULD BE KAWA-TO'S JOB.

HEH HEH!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

CLICK

SHIT

MM?

WHAT CLASS ARE YOU FROM?

GRADUATES?! THE CEREMONY'S STILL RUNNING! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

WE'RE GRADU-ATES.

WE REALLY OWE YA ONE.

THANKS, SENSEI.

MY GOD, YOU MEAN YOU DON'T EVEN RECOGNIZE THE FACES OF YOUR OWN CLUB'S MEMBERS?

WELL, HE BARELY NEVER SHOWED UP FOR PRACTICE ANYHOW, SO I DON'T BLAME HIM.

W-WHAT?!

.....!

W-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON...?

DON'T
OPEN THE
WINDOW!
IT'S
FREEZING
OUT
THERE.

OH,
SORR

!

BLAH
BLAH

YOU
GOT A
BAD BACK?
HOW OLD
ARE YOU,
DUDE?

OH MY
GOD, IT
WAS SO
FUNNY!

KYAHA-
HAHA!

BEEP-
BOOP-
BOOP

BLAH
BLAH

BLAH
BLAH

BLAH
BLAH

BLAH BLAH

HUH? IT'S KAWATO.

WHAT'S HE DOING?

BLAH BLAH

BLEEP-BLEEP

BLAH BLAH

KYAHA-HAHA!

WAIT, WHO'S GETTING MARRIED TO TENKO HIKITA, AGAIN?

.....!?

UH... WHAT IS HE DOING..?

I ALWAYS WANTED TO KICK YOUR STUPID ASS!

FUCK YOU!

AAAGH!

ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD!

LET ME... GO...

!

HUH? WHAT ?!
BLAH BLAH
HEY, IT'S KAWATO.
BWEEP-BOOP
GYA HA HA HA HA!
DON'T SEND ME THOSE STUPID TEXTS!

IT'S... YOU...

KAWATO-SENSEI...

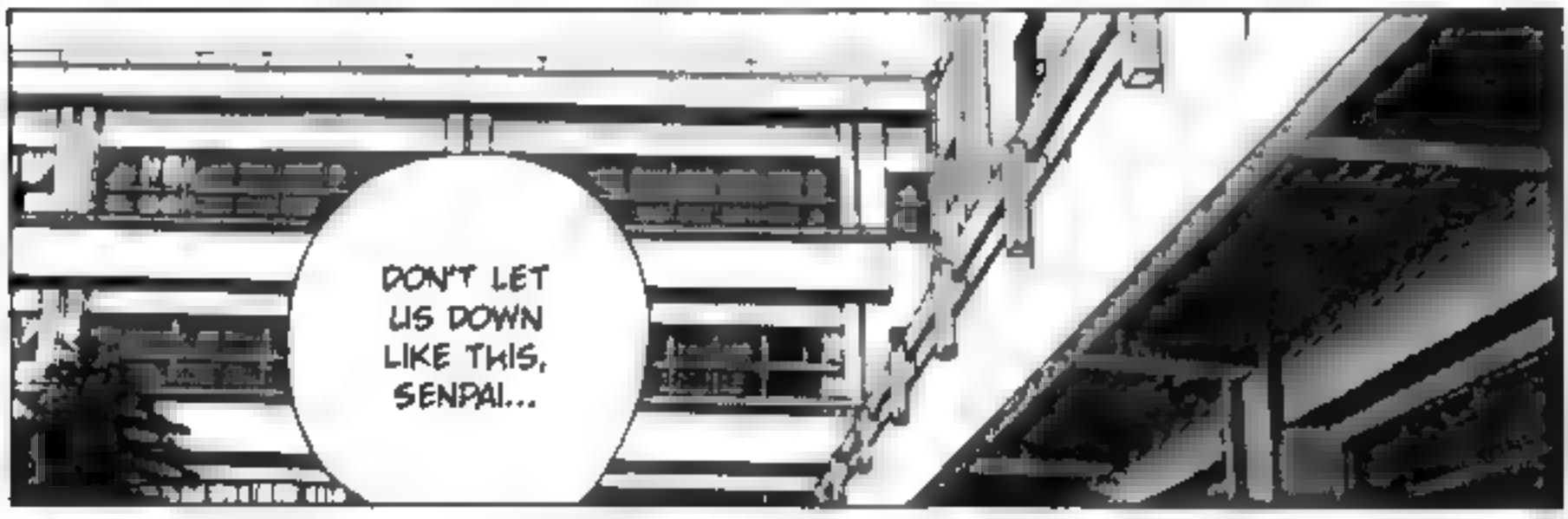
!?

"THE PROPER SHOW OF GRATITUDE IS A DISPLAY OF RESPECT AND AFFECTION,

AND SHOULD NEVER BE ANYTHING LESS THAN A VITAL TOOL OF HUMAN INTERACTION."

YUKICHI FUKUZAWA

AAAAH! KA-WATO-KUN!
THE PRINCI-PAL FAINTED, TOO!


DON'T LET US DOWN LIKE THIS, SENPAI...

I THOUGHT EVERYONE WAS SUPPOSED TO THANK THEIR TEACHERS,
ONCE THEY'VE FINALLY GRADUATED.

JRRGH
AAGH.

IT'S NO USE TRYING WITH A JERKOFF LIKE THIS.

AAAH...

A-AAH...

HMPH.

JUST *TRY* BEING THANKED BY US, ASSHOLE.

LOOK AT ME.

.....

HOW QUICKLY THE MOMENTS HAVE PASSED

THE PRECIOUS YEARS HAVE COME

AND GONE TOO SOON, HERE WITH YOU.

LET'S GO.

PSSH.

WHOA! WHAT SONG IS THIS?

HOW FAST TIME FLIES, I CAN'T BELIEVE..

HMPH.

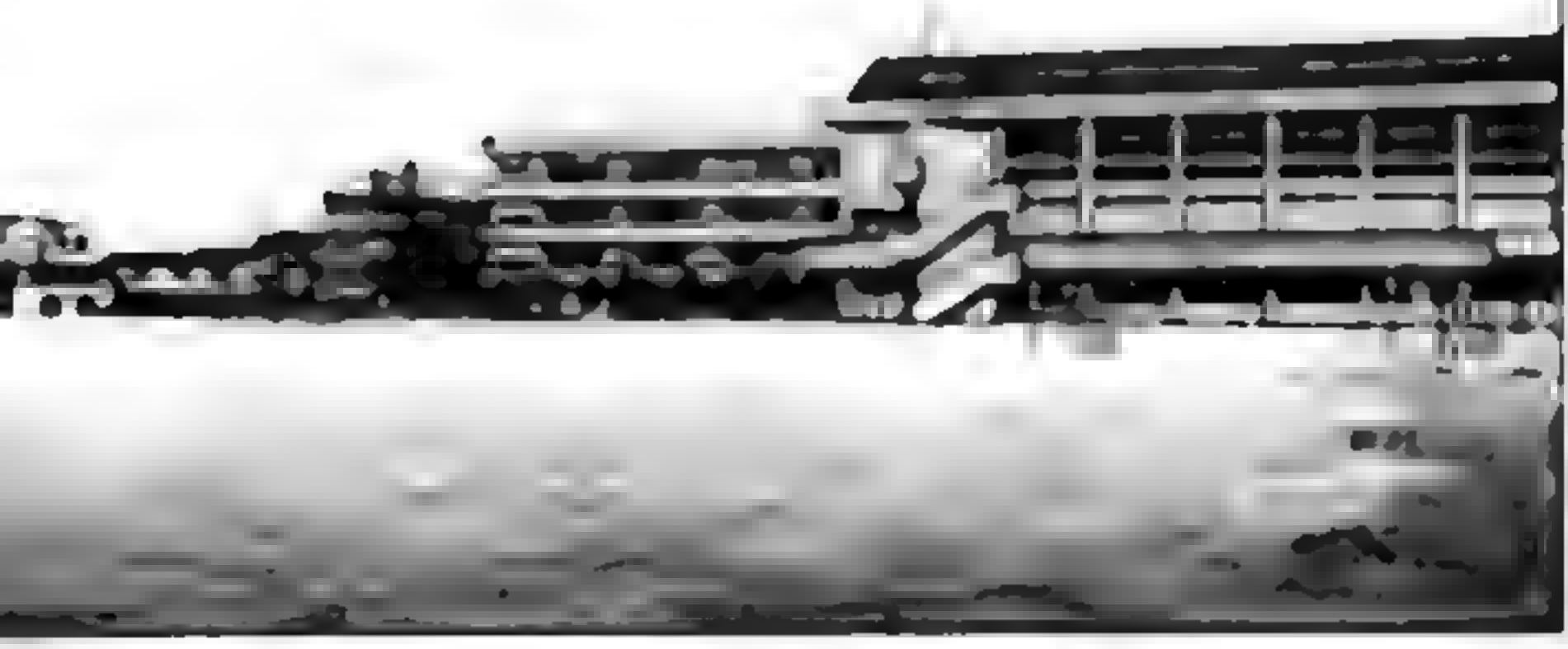
I'VE LEARNED FROM YOU THE RIGHT WAY

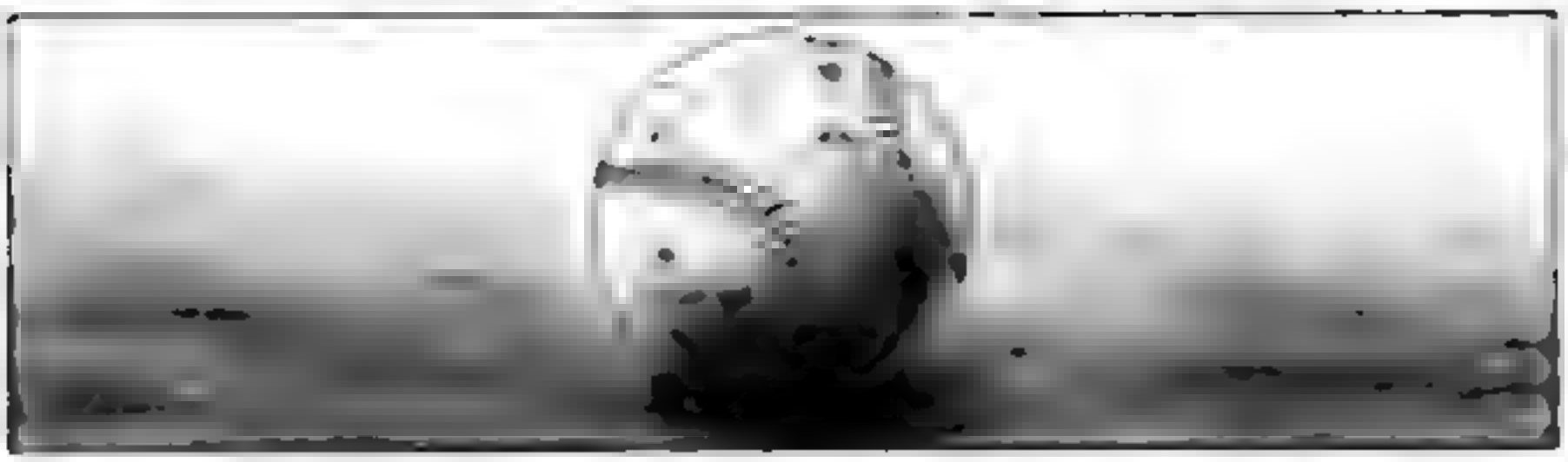
TO DO WHAT MUST BE DONE.

NOW S THE TIME TO SAY FARE-WELL.

WITH AN ETERNALLY GRATEFUL HEART.

Vol.160 Mugwort Grows Straight Among the Flax





Vol.140

Mugwort Grows Straight Among the Flax

ROOKIES

HEY, HAMA-NAKA!

TAIYOOOO!

THERE HE IS.

KNEW HE WOULD BE HERE.

YEAH, I'M COMIN'

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? OPENING CEREMONY'S ABOUT TO START

IN FACT, I'M ONLY JOINING *BECAUSE* I WANT TO PLAY WITH THEM.

THE GUYS ON THE BASEBALL TEAM AIN'T LIKE THAT.

ABOUT WHAT?

DUDE, ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THIS?

SHUT UP.

THEY'LL KILL YOU, MAN.

YOU *REALLY* WANT TO JOIN A CRAZY-ASS CLUB LIKE THAT?

THEY DID IT SO THEY WOULDN'T CRUSH MY FRAGILE DREAMS.

THEY PUT ON THAT ACT SO I WOULDN'T FIND OUT HE WAS LYING. NO...

YEAH, BUT HIRATSUKA-SAN WAS TOTALLY LYING TO YOU.

SHUT UP! DON'T BRING HIM UP AROUND ME!

HIS NAME IS HIYAMA-SAN! GET IT RIGHT!

EVEN THE DUDE WITH THE BEARD?

I DON'T KNOW IF HE SWUNG AND MISSED ON PURPOSE OR NOT, BUT HE DID GET HIRATSUKA-SAN TO THROW A PERFECT PITCH...

HIYAMA-SAN TOLD HIRATSUKA-SAN TO SHOW HIS TRUE ABILITY, WHEN HE COULDN'T THROW A STRIKE...

WHAT-EVER. DO THEY ACTUALLY HAVE PRACTICE AND PLAY REAL GAMES HERE?

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THEY ACTUALLY BEAT MEGURO-GAWA.

YOU JUST *KNOW* THEY FUCK AROUND AND CHILL ALL DAY. IT'S NIKOGAKU! THE PLACE THAT SPARKED THAT HUGE BRAWL

AND THEY DID THAT ALL FOR ME.

*MAN, HE HAS **SUCH** AN ACTIVE IMAGINA-TION.*

DOES A BALL GET *BLOOD* ON IT?

DOES A BALL GET TORN UP LIKE THIS FROM "CHILLING ALL DAY"?

WHOA.

!

GOD! YOU GUYS JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?

SHH.

W-WHAT IF THEY KICKED SOME GUY'S ASS WITH IT?

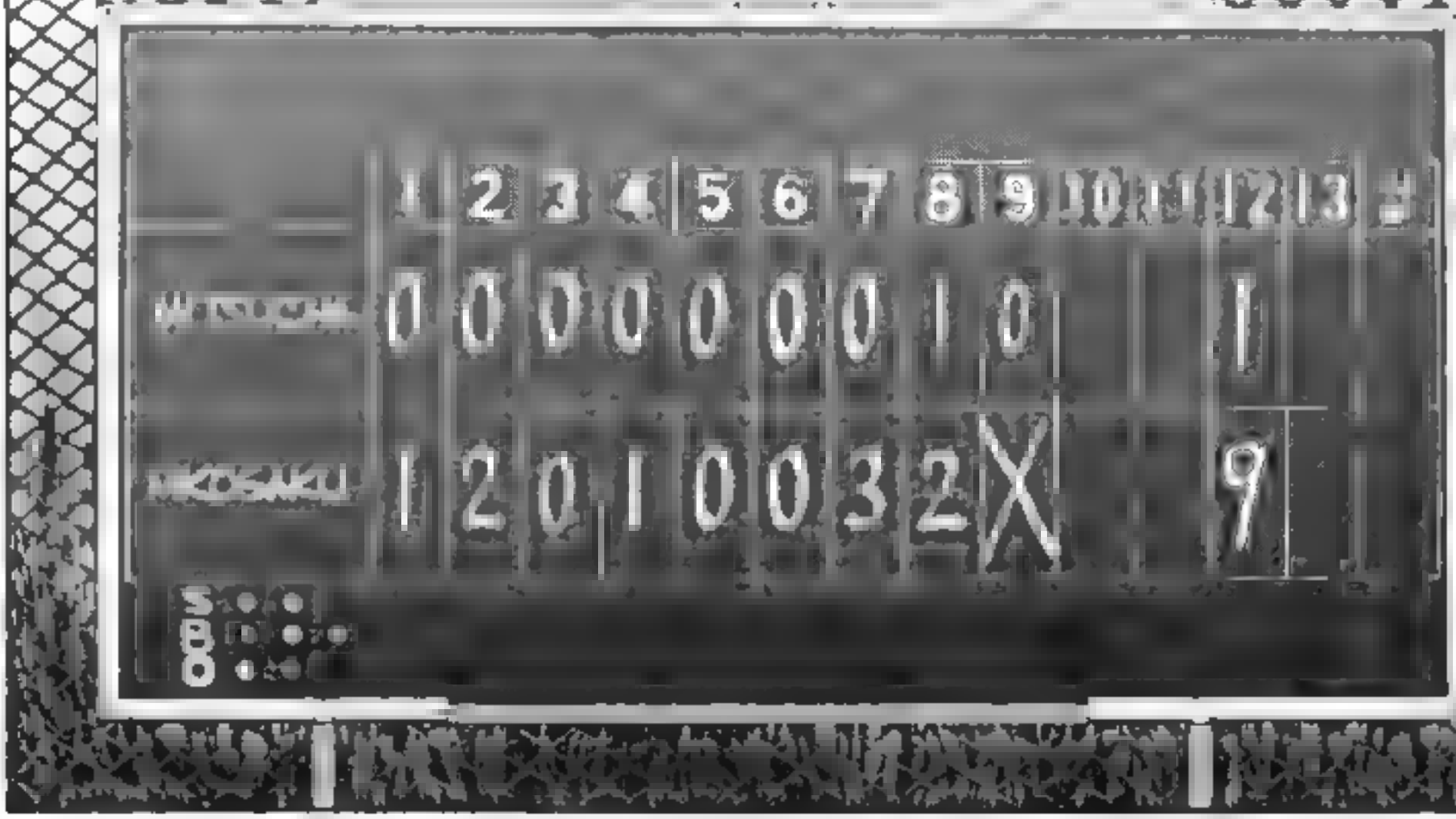
MITSUCHA

NIKOGAKU

S...

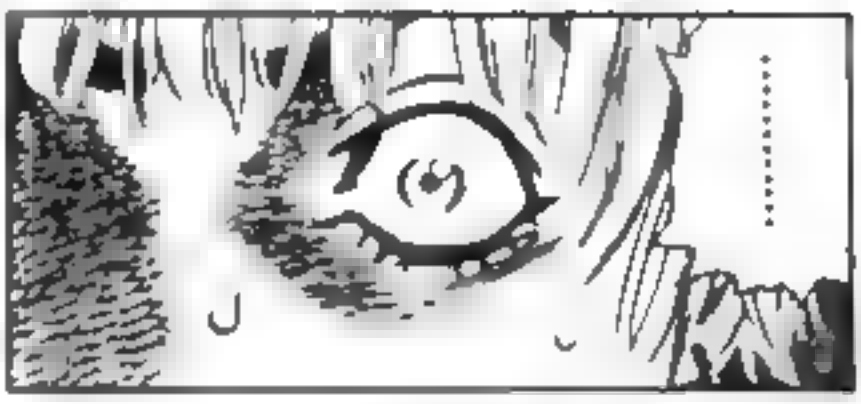
H-HEY, LOOK

WHAT?


1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 R
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1
1 2 0 1 0 0 3 2 X 9

L-LOOKIT
SEE THAT ?

1 0 1
2 X 9



THEY HAD A PRACTICE GAME HERE...
T-THEY DID IT.
WHEN ?

W-WHAT'S AN "X-WIN" ?!
THEY HAD AN X-WIN, MAN!

SEE... THAT'S WHAT NIKO-GAKU'S ALL ABOUT...

W-WOW... THEY CRUSHED 'EM...

.....

YA-HOO OO!

LET'S GO, GUYS! WE GOTTA ATTEND THE CERE-MONY!

UH, HAMA-NAKA...

HA HA...

NOW I'M PUMPED UP!

HELL YEAAA AAH!

I DUNNO.

I THINK THAT KID'S GETTIN' PLAYED TWICE

YEAH... ALL I HEARD WAS THAT NIKOGAKU'S BASEBALL TEAM WAS A BUNCH OF AMATEURS AND THUGS...

T-THIS AIN'T RIGHT, IS IT?

GO ON! GET OUTTA HERE!

AHHH, SHIT!

RAAAHH!

YAAAA AHHH!

PITCH SERI-OUSLY, YUFU-NE!

GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!

ONE MORE PUSH!

ALL RIGHT! INVISIBLE RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD!

DON'T GET TOO EXCITED, GUYS! YOU'LL FORGET TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER LUNCH!

WOOOO!

AAAAH!

GOT 'IM!

AWWW YEAH!

GOD-DAMNIT! SOMEONE *ELSE* PITCH NOW!

SHUT UP! NEXT BATTER, HURRY UP!

WE CAN'T SIT STILL TODAY!

HA HA. WE CAN'T HELP IT, TOKO-CHAN.

HA HA HA.

DID YOU SETTLE ON A CLUB?

I'M GOING TO WATCH THEM PRACTICE BEFORE I DECIDE

REALLY ?!

YOU *HAVE* TO JOIN ONE; NO EXCEP-TIONS.

HA HA HA.

WHATEVER.

NOW, IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT BEING A *THUG*, MAYBE YOU COULD CONSIDER IT.

HEAR THAT?

WHAT ?!

LOOK MAN, I'M TELLING YOU. IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT THE SPORT,

YOU DON'T JOIN *THIS* BASEBALL TEAM.

NO, *YOU'RE* THE ONE WHO DOESN'T UNDER-STAND.

NO, YOU DON'T GET IT LISTEN TO ME! THOSE GUYS ARE...

!

AT THE LAST GRADUATION CEREMONY, MY OLDER BROTHER'S FRIEND'S FRIEND SAID FOUR PEOPLE FROM HIS SOCCER TEAM GOT JUMPED BY THE BASEBALL TEAM AND THEY GOT THE SHIT KICKED OUTTA THEM.

HUH?

UM, EXCUSE ME... WAS THAT STORY TRUE?!

IT'S HIM...

HUH?!

W-WEL... IT'S *COOL* THAT THEY'RE *GOOD* AT BASEBALL *AND* ARE THUGS

I'M TELLING YOU, YOU WON'T BE *PLAYING* ANY BASE-BALL!

FACT, THEY HARDLY DID A THING TO THE OTHER BOYS

THEY WERE SAVING ME FROM THOSE FOUR STUDENTS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT

DON'T MAKE UP NONSENSE.

HUH?

HUH? BUT..

THERE! YOU SEE? THAT'S AWE-SOME!

BECAUSE THERE WAS NO NEED TO TELL ANYONE.

THAT'S RIGHT, I REMEMBER YOU WERE HURT THAT DAY.

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ANYONE?

T. TSUJI-SENSEI

BAH.

TSUJI-SENSEI ...

NOT THAT I ASKED FOR THAT HELP.

HMPH. TO THINK THAT I WOULD BE SAVED BY THE BASEBALL TEAM, OF ALL PEOPLE.

HUH...?

THAT'S RIGHT. I WAS WATCHING YOUR PRACTICE GAME YESTERDAY

Y-YOU SAW THAT?!

.....?

WHAT A STRANGE TURN OF EVENTS.

.....

.....

RATHER INSPIRED PERFORMANCE FROM A BUNCH OF NO-GOOD PUNKS...

!

HEH. THOUGH I MUST ADMIT I GOT CHILLS AT HIYAMA'S THREE-RUN HOMER IN THE SEVENTH INNING.

EVEN IF IT *WAS* LUCK.

RYAA!

THAT WAS TOTAL SKILL!

H-HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!

HEY, IT'S YOU...

HAHA HAHA, NO WAY.

ALL RIGHT! REPLAY OF YES-TERDAY'S BOMB!

YESTER-
DAY'S WIN
CAME
FROM
TALENT
THAT
WASN'T
LUCK.

YEAAAAAHHH!

カキーン

カ

カ

WHEN THEY STARTED, THEY HAD REGRET AND REFLECTION IN THEIR HEARTS

THAT'S WHAT HELPS THEM STRIVE HARDER THAN ANYONE ELSE.

HMPH.

THEY'RE PUNKS THAT SWING A BAT A THOUSAND TIMES A DAY.

A TH-THOU-SAND ?

F-FOR REAL...?

HOLY CRAP

THE SHAVED HAIR LOOKS GOOD ON YOU, SENSEI!!

TSUJI-SENSEI...

REGRET AND REFLEC-TION, YOU SAY?

WELL, GOOD LUCK TO THEM.

YEY!

YEY!

YEY!

NIKOGA-
KUUUUU!

HUP!

HUP!

RAHHH!

YEY!

YEY!

YEY!

GET A GRIP, MAN!

YEY!

GET YOUR BODY IN FRONT!

YEY-

FYOO!

RYAAAH!

Banner: Come Join the Baseba Team
(Two-Game Winn ng Streak)

COME ON!

新入部員歓迎

現在二連勝中

BOMBS AWAY!!

YEAA AAH!

A THOU-SAND ?

REALLY ?

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HOLD IT DOWN!!

Vol.141

Can't Learn From Fujita-sensei

SIGN UP HERE FOR A ONE-DAY-ONLY TRIAL MEMBER-SHIP!

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, IF YOU'D LIKE!

GOOD MORNING! WE'RE THE SOCIAL STUDIES CIRCLE!

GOOD MORNING!

DRAMA CLUB

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO STAND ON STAGE?

I'M FROM THE DRAMA CLUB!

THE ART CLUB IS AWAITING ALL OF YOU!

UH... RIGHT.

DID YOU PICK A CLUB YET? YOU CAN COME SEE THE SCIENCE CLUB TODAY.

WE'RE ATHLETICS TOO, BUT WE'VE GOT TO WORK TO RECRUIT

THAT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE DES-PERATE, THE ATHLETICS TEAMS GET PEOPLE WITHOUT TRYING

WE DON'T HAVE THE PRESTIGE OR FAME TO WIN THEM OVER.

IT'S MOSTLY LIBERAL ARTS CLUBS, THOUGH.

WOW! LOOK AT EVERYONE HARD AT WORK

Welcoming new members!

FLUTTER INTO YOUR DREAMS. GLITTER INTO TOMORROW

LET'S GO TO THE KOSHIEN!

Did you know that our very own Nikogaku baseball team once reached the Koshien? Are you willing to share this glory with us?

TWO-GAME WINNING STREAK

OH WELL. I GUESS IT'S JUST UP TO US

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE OTHER GUYS, THOUGH. WE *TOLD* THEM TODAY WAS FLYER DAY

YEAH, THAT'S TERRIBLE.

THEY DIDN'T EVEN COME TO MORNING PRACTICE!

I'M FROM THE BASEBALL TEAM, AND WE'RE OFFERING

UH, N-NO THANKS.

AAAH!

MORNING! YOU GUYS LIKE BASEB

HUH...?

AAAH, I'M SORRY!

YOU CAN

LOOK OUT, IT'S THE BASEBALL TEAM!

N-NO I DIDN'T.

YOU SAW ME SMOKING, KID.

HEY, YOU JUST SAW ME, DIDN'T YOU?

UH, SORRY! I DIDN'T, SIR!

I'M SERIOUS!

WHAT?!

MUGH

S-STOP IT, MAN

LET'S MAKE SURE OF THAT, SHALL WE? TAKE A PUFF

I-I AIN'T GONNA SNITCH ON YA!

YEAH, HE'S GOT THAT FACE.

THIS LITTLE PRICK'S GONNA SQUEAL ON US.

WHAT? NOOOOO!

CLICK

AND CHEESE!

O-OKAY. F-FIVE HUNDRED YEN.

MAKE IT QUICK! CLOCK'S RUN-NING!

WHAT THE FUCK?! IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A JOKE?!

H-HUHHH?!

HOW MUCH YOU GONNA SPEND ON THIS ONE?!

Y-YOU CAN'T DO THIS, MAN.

YOU DON'T WANNA GET SUSPENDED RIGHT AT THE START OF SCHOOL, DO YA? IF YOU DON'T WANT THIS PHOTO PLAS-TERED AROUND SCHOOL, IT'S GONNA COST YA.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?

WHO'S THAT?

HAMANAKA?! YOU CAME TO NIKOGAKU TOO?

AN OLD PAL.

.....

WHOA, IT'S KAMI-SAKA.

I'M GONNA KILL YOU, YA LITTLE BITCH!

GET THE FUCK BACK HERE!

HEY!

H-HUH? I DID? OH YEAH.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MADE THAT IDEA UP!

WHAT A FAG.

KNOCK IT OFF, MAN. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU STILL PULL THIS SHIT.

ANYWAYS, I'M OVER THAT KID'S STUFF, MAN. ALL IN THE PAST.

WHAT?!

WE'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL NOW! HIGH SCHOOL! YOU GOTTA FIND SOMETHING TO DEVOTE YOURSELF TO.

KIDS, KIDS, KIDS.

SAY YOU GUYS ARE KIDS.

SAY WHAT?!

LIKE SPORTS.

OOOF!

FORGET HIM, HE'S ALL TALK! GUY CAN'T FIGHT FOR SHIT.

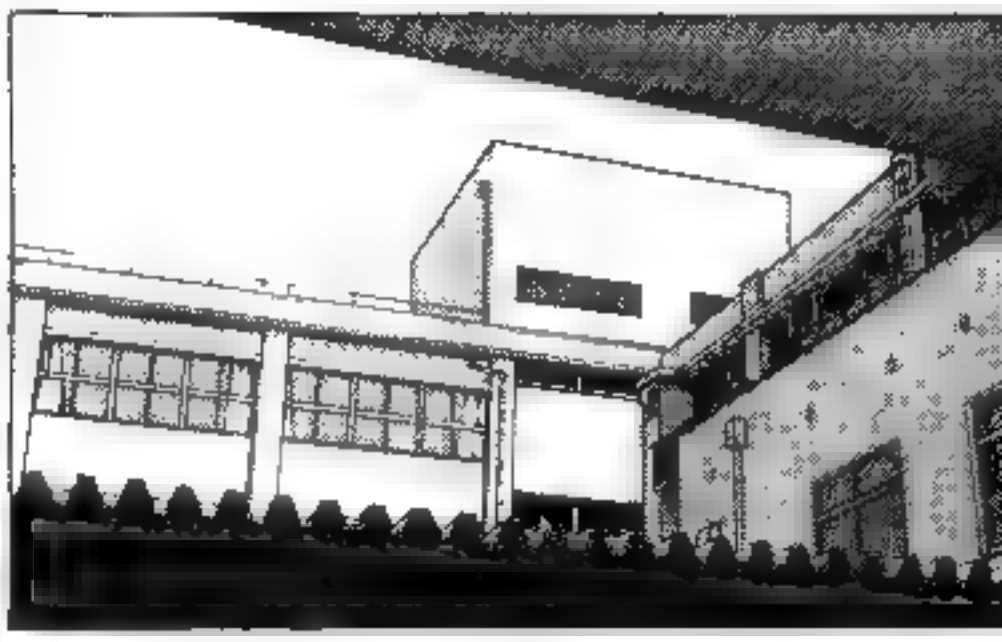
W- WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH HIM?

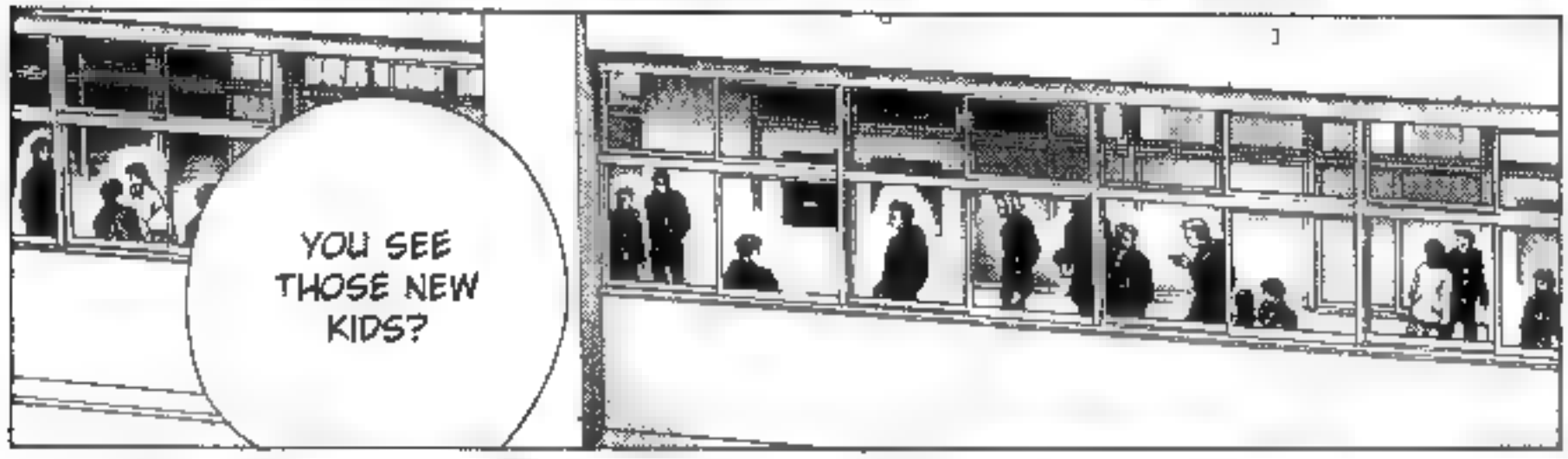
AAAGH, WHAT THE FUCK WAS THAT FOR. YOU'RE GONNA GET IT

I WANNA REACH THE KOSHIEN OF DREAMS, WITH MY GREAT NEW TEAMMATES...

I'M NOT A KID ANYMORE... I'VE GOTTA LIVE IN SEARCH OF GLORY...

SHIT, I OUGHTA.. NO! HOLD IT IN!




YOU SEE THOSE NEW KIDS?

NOT THAT WE'VE GOT ROOM TO TALK, HEH.

2-B
MAN, THERE ARE A LOT OF BAD KIDS IN THIS YEAR'S CROP

AND THE VIEW FROM THE WINDOWS S EXACTLY THE SAME.

WELL, ALL WE CAN DO S PRAY WE GET SOME LIVELY NEW MEMBERS.

YEAH, IT'S LIKE NOTHING'S DIFFER-ENT.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S KINDA LAME THAT WE DON'T GET OUR CLASSES SHUFFLED FOR SECOND YEAR?

ALL I CAN FEEL IS DESPAIR AT THE FACT THAT WE HAVE THREE STRAIGHT YEARS OF KAWATO FOR JAPANESE, RATHER THAN FUJITA-SENSE

OPPOSED.

EX-CUSE ME?!

YOU'RE JUST WORRIED THAT THE MORE MEMBERS WE HAVE, THE HARDER IT'... BE TO EVEN GET A SPOT ON THE BENCH, HIRACCH.

WE'RE NOT GONNA GET ANYONE GOOD.

WHY DON'T WE STOP SOLICIT-ING NEW MEMBERS?

WHY'S THAT?!

HOW COME?

GYA HA HA HA!

MAN, THAT MUST SUCK FOR YOU, HUH?

RIGHT! THE ONE WHO THOUGHT HIRATSUKA WAS SOME KIND OF GOD

.....

OH YEAH, HAS THAT ONE KID JOINED? THE BLOND ONE WHO KNEW HIRATSUKA.

NO, I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!

SORRY WE SLEPT IN, MAN. DON'T TAKE IT PER-SONAL.

I JUST THINK.

WHAT'S UP, MIKO-SHIBA?

.....

HUH?!

HOW COME?

WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET ANY NEW MEMBERS THIS YEAR.

I LEARNED THIS WHEN HANDING OUT FLYERS TODAY.

WE COULD HARDLY GET ANYONE TO TAKE ONE.

AND EVEN THEN, I SAW A BUNCH IN THE TRASH.

THAT BRAWL WAS HUGE NEWS.

WE'VE GOT A TERRIBLE IMAGE, YOU GUYS.

I DON'T THINK ANY OF THEM REALIZE WE'RE ACTUALLY DOING SERIOUS BASEBALL NOW.

THEY ONLY KNOW THE OLD, SCARY BASEBALL TEAM.

GOSH, THAT SUCKS! WHAT A BUMMER! BOGUS!

DAMN, ARE YOU SERIOUS?!

WELL, WHO CARES? WE CAN CHANGE THEIR MINDS STARTING NOW.

WHY ARE YOU GUYS GIVING UP RIGHT OFF THE BAT?

TSK.

HA HA

R-REALLY ...?

.....

.....

HE WAS A DAMN GOOD HITTER. HE COULD THROW AND RUN, TOO. SUPER FAMOUS.

I KNOW AN AKABOSHI FROM FUTAGO THIRD MIDDLE SCHOOL. WE PLAYED HIM.

AKA-BOSHI?

DO YOU KNOW THE NAME AKABOSHI, ANIYA?

WELL... I THINK HE MIGHT HAVE JOINED OUR SCHOOL

NAW, IT COULDN'T BE HIM...

YEAH... I SHOULDA FIGURED ...

WHY? WHAT ABOUT THE GUY?

I HEARD HE WOULD HAVE BEEN AN IMMEDIATE ALL-NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER.

THE GUY STRUCK ME OUT ONCE ON THREE PITCHES.

YEAH? WELL, SHUT UP.

I HEARD SCHOOLS FROM ALL OVER THE PLACE WERE SCOUTING HIM!

W-WHAT?!

WHAT'S A GUY LIKE HIM DOING HERE?!

WOW... AKABOSHI... AT OUR SCHOOL ...

AKA-BOSHI? I KNOW WHO HE IS..

.....

HE WAS IN MY BROTHER'S CLASS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. I THINK IT'S HIM.

MAYBE HE'S THE SAME WAY.

I PUR-POSELY AVOIDED THOSE BIG FAMOUS SCHOOLS BECAUSE I HATE 'EM!

WELL, *ANIYA'S* HERE, ISN'T HE?

H-HELL NO! WHY WOULD HE BE HERE ?!

...THE ENTRY FORMS FROM THE STUDENTS ..

UH, GUYS... SENSEI JUST HANDED ME...

.....

THAT MANY ?!

HOLY SHIT, ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!

LET ME SEE! MOVE IT!

GOD-DAMN, MAN!

.....

!

W- WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

CLUB ENTRY FORM

1 年 A組 B* KATSU

BASEBALL CLUB PREFERRED

2ND CHOICE POOP CLUB

poop poop

poop poop poop

WHERE'S AKA-BOSHI?!

NOT HERE!

N-NO, WAIT! LOOK FOR AKA-BOSHI'S!

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS? THEY'RE ALL PRANKS!

.....

YOU FIND IT?!

AHA!

CLUB ENTRY

1年C組15番

Taiyo Hamanaka

Baseball

CLUB PREFERRED

It's a pleasure to work with you.

.....

DAMN

NO AKA-BOSHI ...

OH GOD NOOO OOOO OOOO!

!?

WE STILL HAVE TO CLEAN UP THE CLUBROOM, JUST IN CASE ANYONE REALLY **DOES** WANT TO CHECK IT OUT.

OH, THOSE HORRIBLE PRANK ENTRIES ...

EXCUSE ME, WE DON'T WANT YOU SMOKING AROUND HERE.

WHAT'S HE DOING THERE?

ﾅﾞﾁｬ

.....

.....

HUH?!

WHAT ?!

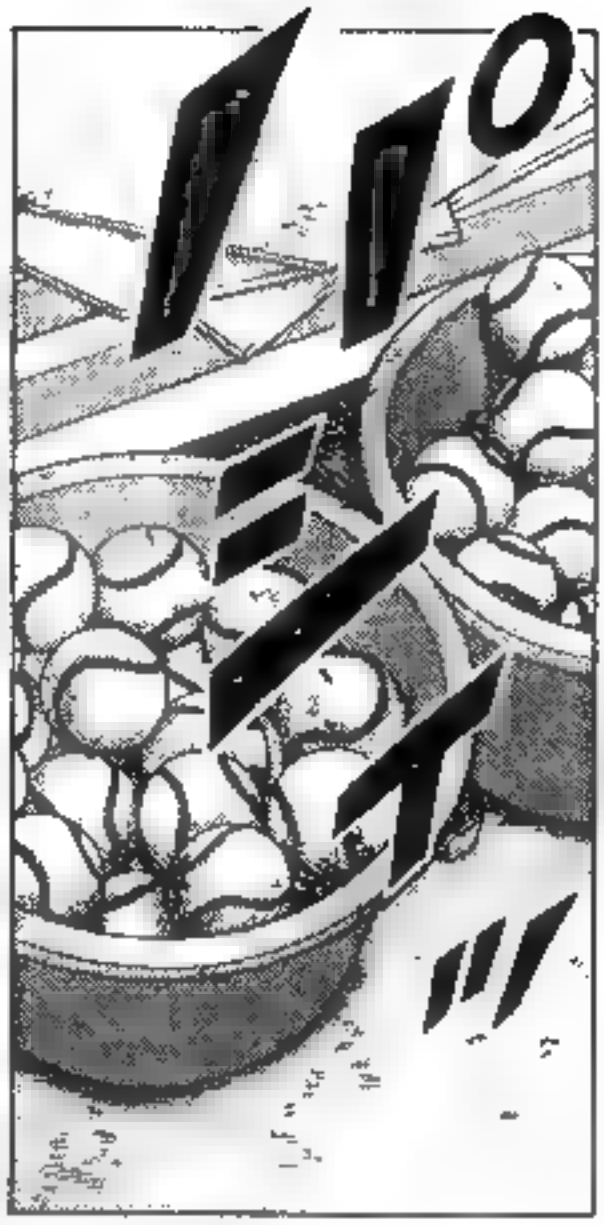
HE DOESN'T WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM, DOES HE. .?

!

STOP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!

NO...

YEOW!
.....


!!!

WHAT THE HELL? I THOUGHT YOU WERE INVITING ME IN.

!!!
WHO WAS THAT ...?

AW- RIGHT, ALREADY.
E- EXCUSE ME?! ARE YOU KIDDING ?!
JEEZ! CRAZY CHICK.
GET OUT OF HERE AT ONCE!

STUDENT I.D.
No
Shoji Akaboshi

Vol.142

New Kids Gonna Get Ya

C'MON, JUST SPEAK UP, BITCH.

I ASKED WHAT CLUB YOU'RE IN.

I'M ON THE SOCCER TEAM. WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

EXCUSE ME?!

HUH?

WHAT ?!

GET LOST.

THEN I DON'T NEED YOU.

SOCCER TEAM?

YOU PIECE OF SHIT.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYONE BUT THE BASEBALL TEAM.

WHAT ?!

I THINK WE NEED TA BEAT SOME *FEAR* INTO HIM.

WHO THE FUCK DO YOU GUYS THINK YOU ARE? YOU'RE JUST FIRST-YEARS.

HUH?! LISTEN TO THIS GUY TALK.

GWAAH!

!

HEY.

ドヤ!!!

FORGET THAT GUY HE AIN'T THE BASE-BALL TEAM, OBVIOUSLY.

YEAH, HUH. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT

WHAT CLUB YOU ON?

GET THE FUCK BACK HERE!

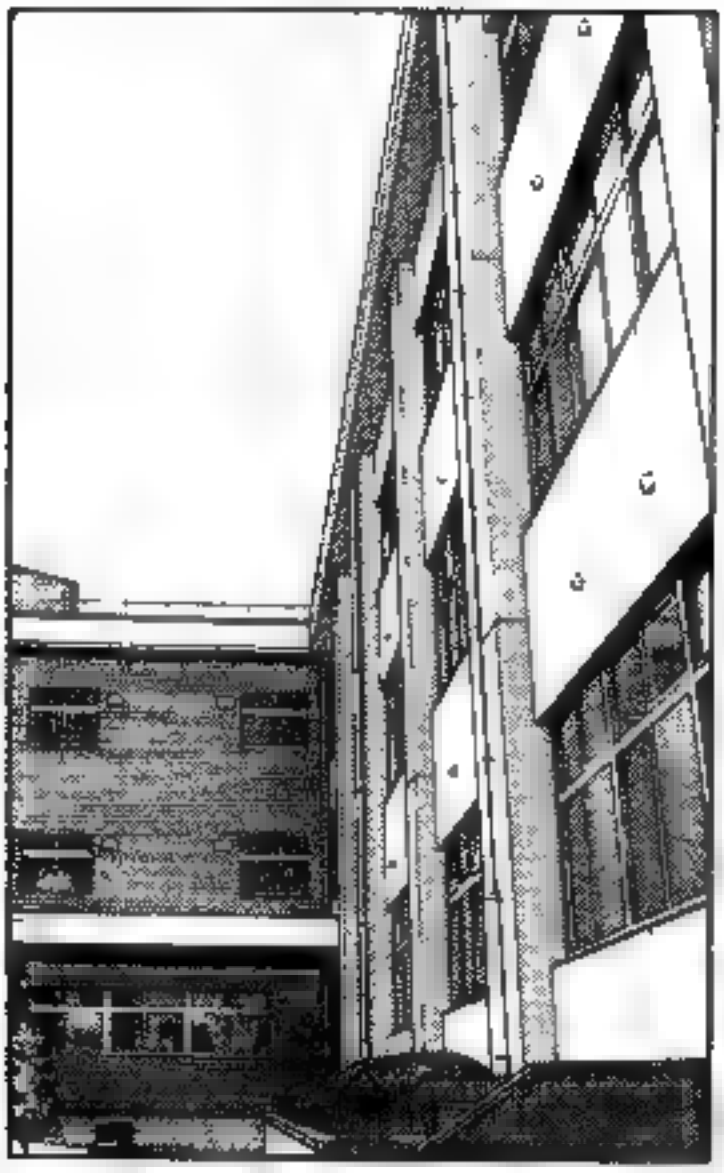
AA-AAAH!

.....

PSHH. PATHETIC.

FORGET THAT GUY, KAMISAKA. LET'S JUST FIND THE BASEBALL TEAM ALREADY

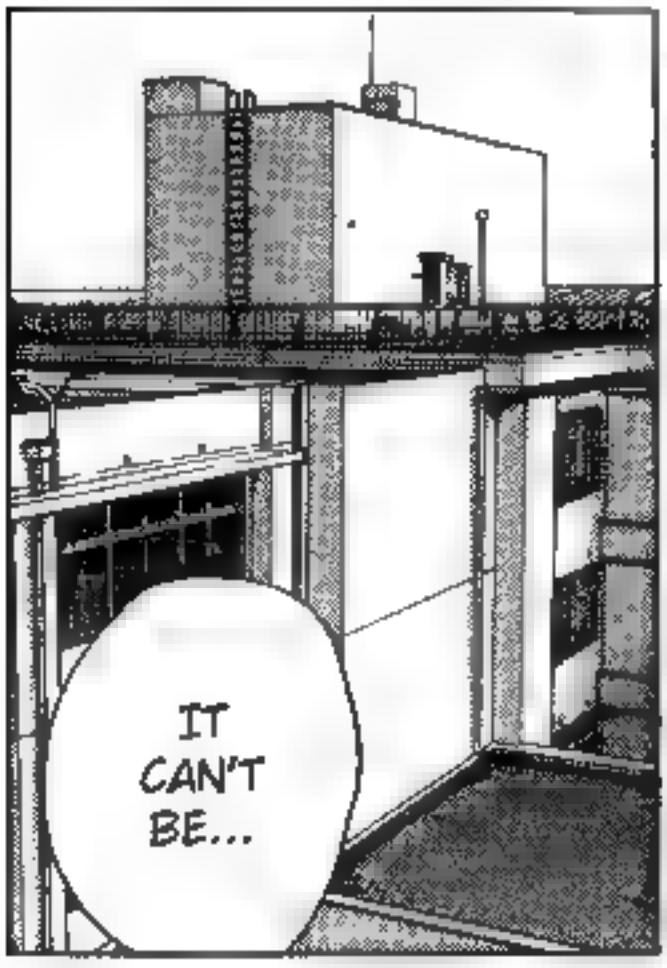
HEH. JUST WAIT 'TIL I GET MY HANDS ON THAT TEAM.



THOSE PUNKS ARE AFTER US...
THEY WANT TO BEAT DOWN THE BIG BAD BASEBALL TEAM, AND SHOW THE WORLD THEY'RE THE TOUGHEST...

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?

SHOJI... AKABOSHI...
Shoji Akaboshi


IT CAN'T BE...

!

THAT NAME SOUNDS FAMILIAR...
AKABOSHI, AKABOSHI...

HMMM.

HEY, WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?! YOU DON'T JUST MESS WITH ANOTHER GUY'S STUFF WITHOUT PERMISSION!

HEY, SAY SOME-THING! C'MON!

WHAT WAS YOUR NAME... AKABOSHI?
WHAT, YOU INTERESTED IN BASEBALL? WHAT CLUB YOU IN?

OWW, MAN.

I ALREADY KNOW THE GUYS ON THE TEAM--THEY'RE REALLY COOL! WE'LL HAVE FUN TOGETHER!

YOU TURNED IN YOUR SLIP ALREADY, RIGHT?

WHAAAAT?! OHHHHH! YOU'RE ON THE BASEBALL TEAM TOO?!

SO AM I, HA HA HA! YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO!

YOU'RE NEW TO THE GAME, THOUGH, AREN'T YOU?

YOU WERE LOOKING AT MY GLOVE LIKE YOU NEVER SAW ONE BEFORE.

GOD, YOU'RE ANNOYING.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT

LISTEN TO ME, MAN! I'M JUST TRYING TO...

NAW, MAN. PAIN IN THE ASS.

I GOT TWO GLOVES!

C'MON, LET'S PLAY CATCH!

I WAS GONNA SHOW YOU HOW TO THROW THE BALL! YOU THINK THAT'S A PAIN IN THE ASS?!

PAIN IN THE ASS?! I'M TRYIN' TO FOSTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TWO HOPEFUL MEMBERS OF THE BASEBALL TEAM, AND YOU THINK IT'S A PAIN IN THE ASS?!

YOU WANT ME TO WEAR THIS?

NOT UNLESS YOU CAN CATCH MY SUPER-LIGHTSPEED FASTBALL BARE-HANDED.

SIGHHHHH.

HEH.

YOH.

WHUH ?

RIGHT AT ME, SON!

HERE WE GO.

WHEN YOU PLAY CATCH, YOU GOTTA THROW AT THE OTHER GUY'S CHEST

WAIT, YOU CAN'T DO THAT HERE!

NO, THE ELBOW GOES ***ABOVE*** THE SHOULDER!

OH!

CRAP.

AH!

YEOW!

WHOA!

KYAA AA!

YOU GOT NO TALENT, DUDE.

I'MMA LAY IT STRAIGHT. FORGET ABOUT THE TEAM.

SORRY, MAN.

HA HA!

NOT USED TO THAT.

UGH...

IS *THIS* WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE?

HMMMM.

HUH?! OH, NO REASON.

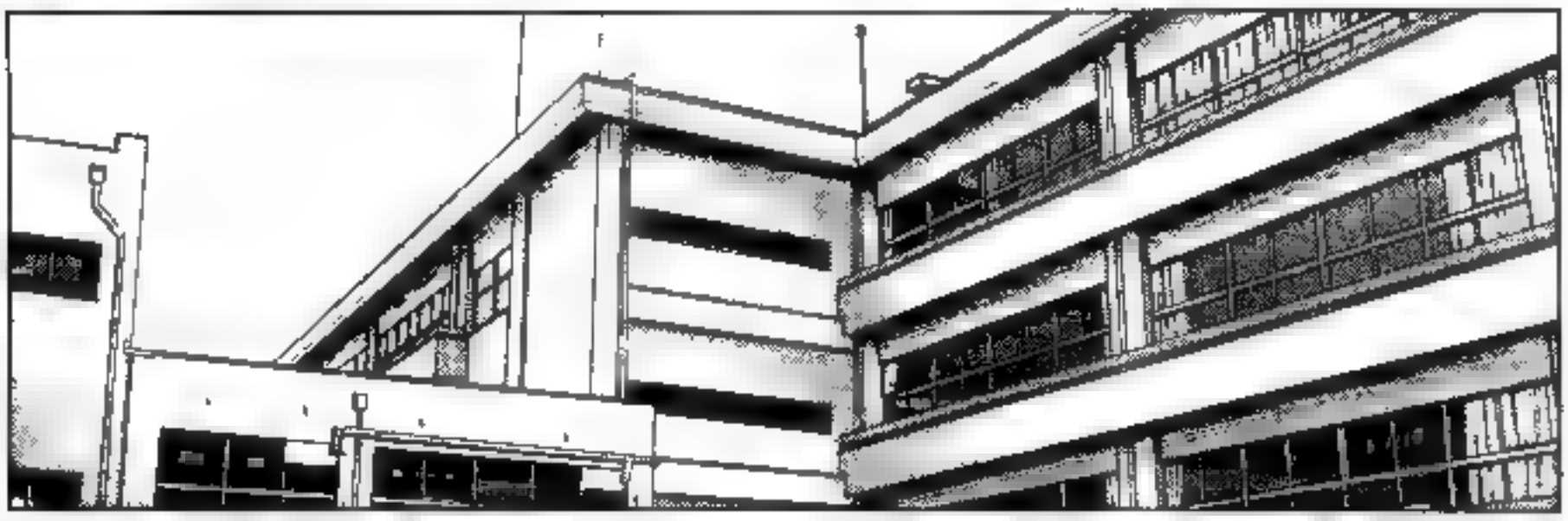
AND WHY ARE YOU CARRYING THIS AROUND?

I FOUND IT.

IT'S NOT HIM?

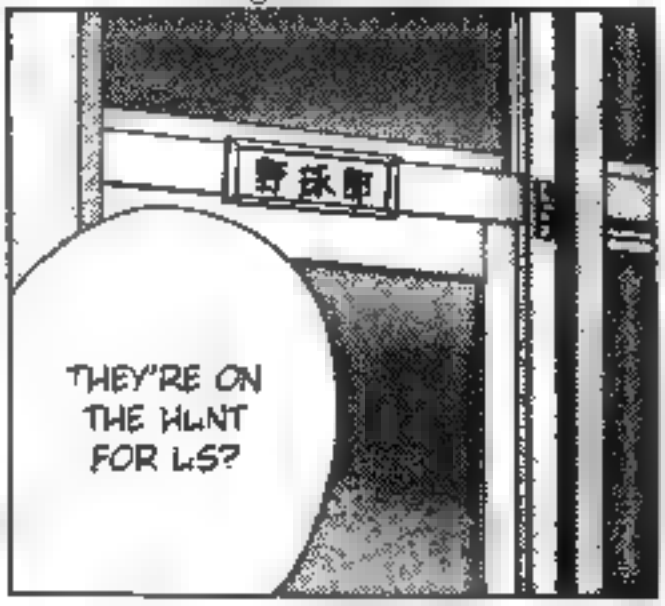
I WON'T KNOW UNLESS HE'S WEARING A HAT.

WHY'S HIS FOREHEAD SO DAMN BIG?



Sign: Baseball

YEAH, I BET THEY'RE ALREADY THERE.
THINK THEY'LL COME?
WE'RE GETTIN' THE HOPEFUL NEW MEMBERS TOGETHER ON THE FIELD TODAY, RIGHT?
IF THERE IS ANYONE THERE, THEY'LL BE LOOKIN' TO FIGHT US.
YOU THINK ANYONE'S GONNA BE THERE? YOU SAW THOSE FORMS



GOOD AFTER-NOOO-OON!

AAA-AAHH !!

WHAT IF THAT AKABOSHI GUY IS THERE?

HELL NAW, THAT'S JUST SOME OTHER DUDE.

NICE TO MEET YOU AGAIN!

WHOA.

IT'S. YOU.

I'VE COME TO BE A PART OF THE BASEBALL TEAM!

I'M TAIYO HAMANAKA!

I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE HAPPY THAN AT THE THOUGHT OF FOLLOWING MY DREAMS AT YOUR SIDE!

I FEEL LIKE THE DAY WE MET IS NOW THE MOST IMPORTANT IN MY ENTIRE LIFE!

I'LL WORK MYSELF LIKE A DOG TO MAKE SURE I DON'T HOLD YOU BACK!

.....

GYAHAHA, I CAN'T BELIEVE HE SHOWED UP!

HUH?

SALU-TALA-TIONS ?

I WAS MOVED BY YOUR SOLICITOUS SALUTA-LATIONS, YOU GUYS!

WHAT DID HE SAY?

AWW, MAN... SO BLUNT, SO COOL...

HEY! C'MON, YOU GUYS! BE POLITE!

IT'S NICE TO MEET ALL OF YOU!

AND IT'S NICE TO MEET...

HEH HEH... SEE, THERE ARE STILL GUYS LIKE THIS...

WHA-AAA-AA?!

HIRA-TSUKA-SAN.

YOUR STORIES MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED, BUT I SAW THAT AMAZING PITCH YOU THREW. THAT REALLY HAPPENED, AND IT WAS A SUPERHERO PITCH BY ANYONE'S STANDARDS!

I STILL HAVE A LOT OF RESPECT FOR YOU, YOU KNOW.

THAT WAS INDEED JUST A TINY GLIMPSE OF MY TRUE POTENTIAL!

FWA HA HA HA HA HA! EXACTLY RIGHT!

VERY SOON THE TIME WILL COME WHEN I CAN SHOW YOU MY FULL GLORY!

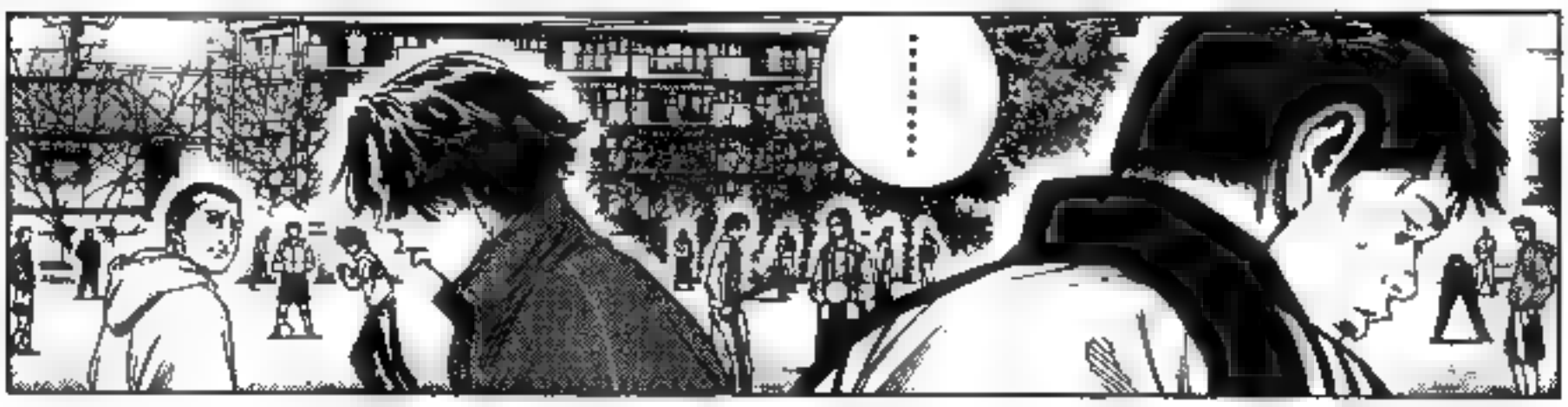
.....

HEH.

HEH HEH..

...YOU GET BACK HERE!

THAT WILL BE THE MOMENT WHEN-!


.....

Vol.143 Spring Gathering

...BUT I TOLD HIM TO QUIT.

OH, THERE WAS A GUY NAMED AKA-BOSHI IN MY CLASS WHO WANTED TO JOIN...

DON'T YOU KNOW ANY OTHER KIDS WHO WANNA PLAY BALL?

DON'T WORRY, GUYS! I'LL CLEAN UP ANY JOKERS WHO TRY TO GET IN YOUR WAY!

NO WORRIES!

YOU'D BE SURPRISED. WE WERE LIKE THAT OUR-SELVES AT ONE POINT.

HA HA HA...

YOU CAN'T JOIN THE TEAM IF THAT'S ALL YOU CAN DO.

AND HE HAD A BIG-ASS FOREHEAD

I MEAN, THE DUDE COULD BARELY THROW A BA...

HEH.

AAAAHHH!!

AKA-BOSHII IIII?!

W-WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

DID YOU JUST SAY AKABOSHI? YOU DID, DIDN'T YOU?!

THAT'S THE GUY, MAN! IT'S THE FREAKIN' GUY!

WHY DID YOU TELL HIM TO QUIT?!

HEY, WHO WAS HE?! THE ONE FROM FUTAGO THIRD MIDDLE SCHOOL ?!

I-I DON'T KNOW!

H-HE'S JUST SOME DUDE WITH A FIVE-HEAD! ALSO, HE HAD A PRETTY BIG NOSE, TOO...

HE WAS THROW N' L KE THIS, I MEAN, HE TOTALLY THREW THE BALL LIKE A GIRL! IT WAS TERRIBLE..

I-IT WAS LIKE THE FIRST TIME HE HAD EVER PUT A GLOVE ON, MAN! AND HE HAD A HUGE FOREHEAD!

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT AKA-BOSHI?

W-WHY? WHAT ABOUT HIM?

IS IT A DIFFERENT PERSON?

T-THAT A.N'T HIM, THEN...

!

AH...

WHAT IF THERE'S ACTUALLY ANOTHER GUY NAMED AKABOSHI?

YEAH, AT LEAST YOU KNOW YOU'D BE BETTER THAN HIM.

VERY GOOD WE SHOULD RECRUIT THIS FELLOW AT ONCE

WHAT, IS AKABOSHI THERE?!

HERE WE GO.

NAW, MAN.

LOOK AT THE FIELD.

!

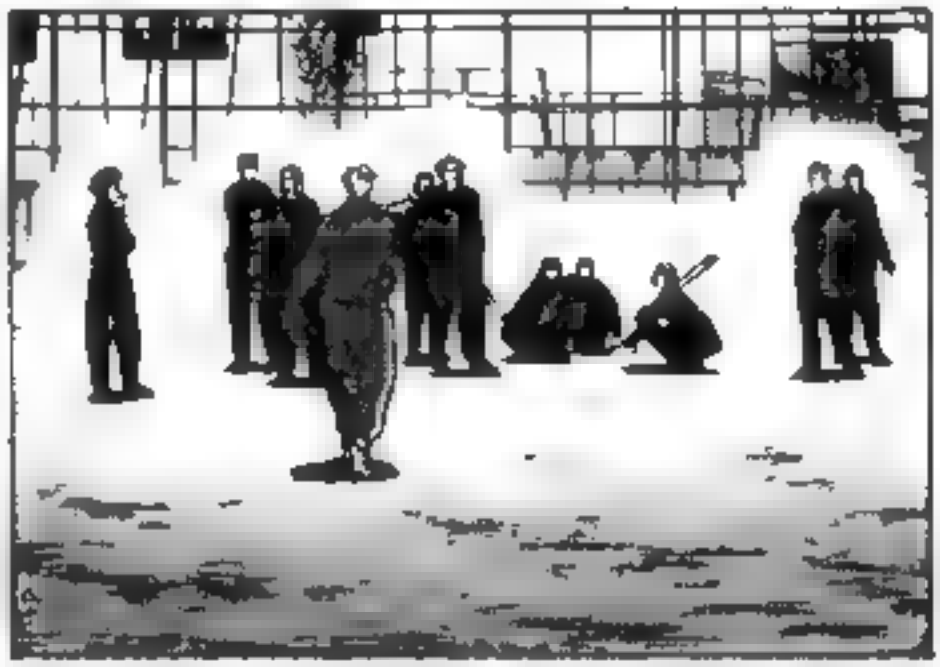
WHOA, MAN.

HEH. WHAT IF THEY REALLY DO JUST WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM?
IS THAT WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE TO YOU?

ALL RIGHT, YOU SHIT-HEADS! LOOK HERE!
HUH? HEY!

HUH? YOU KNOW HIM?
OH, KAMI-SAKA!

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO SULLY YOUR HANDS WITH THESE PUNKS.
LEAVE HIM TO ME, GUYS.



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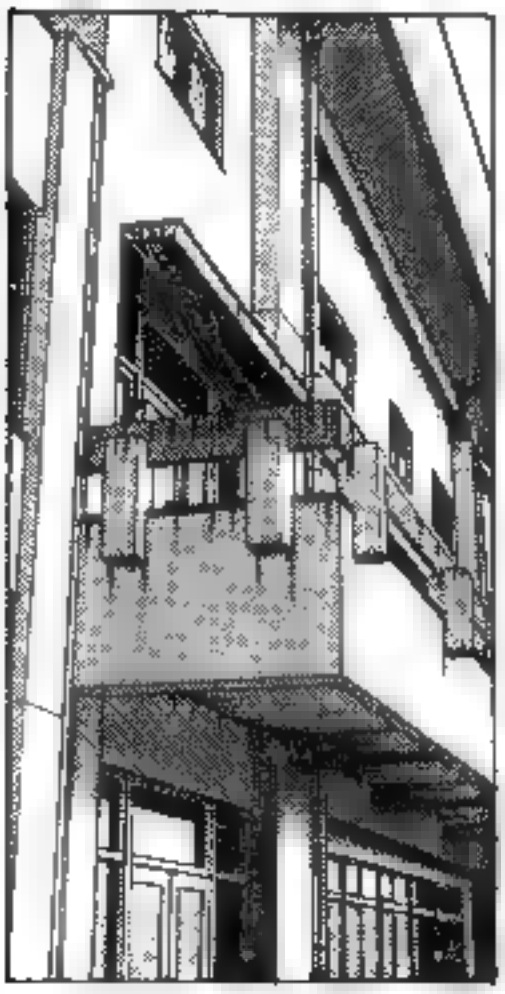


LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE NOT INTERESTED IN JOINING UP.

WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THEM HARRASSING US!

OH, YES, I AGREE!

ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THE MAN IN CHARGE THERE KNOWS HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM.

Sign: Faculty Room

BUNCH OF REAL BAD APPLES IN THE LOT AGAIN THIS YEAR.

WELL, AS LONG AS THEY ALL JOIN THE BASEBALL TEAM, IT'LL SAVE THE REST OF US FROM EXTRA HASSLE...

INDEED, INDEED! YOU RAISE A *VERY* GOOD POINT, SHIMANO-SENSE!

HEH HEH.

HMM?

PAY THEM NO MIND, KAWATO-KUN.

HA HA HA! WE HAD A BAD REPUTATION, I KNOW, SO I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THIS YEAR'S CROP.

BUT ELEVEN! WHAT A NUMBER!

UH, THOSE DON'T LOOK LIKE... NEVER MIND.

LOOK AT TH S! ELEVEN SUBMIS-SIONS!

TADAH!

CLUB ENTRY FORM

1・A13 KATSUNO

BASEBALL CLUB PREFERRED

2ND CHOICE POOP

poop poop poop poop poop poop

HE TELLS ME HE WAS AN EXCEL-LENT PLAYER IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, TOO.

CLUB ENTRY FORM

1年組番

AKABOSHI

CLUB PREFERRED

BASEBALL

WOW, REALLY ?!

YES! WHAT IS IT?

KAWATO-SENSEI.

I HAD A STUDENT IN MY CLASS FORGET TO TURN THIS ONE IN.

EXCEL-LENT! ANOTHER ONE!

HA HA HA, TOI-SENSEI! BOOK YOUR TICKETS FOR THE KO-SHIEN THIS SUMMER!

R-REALLY? HOW ABOUT THAT.

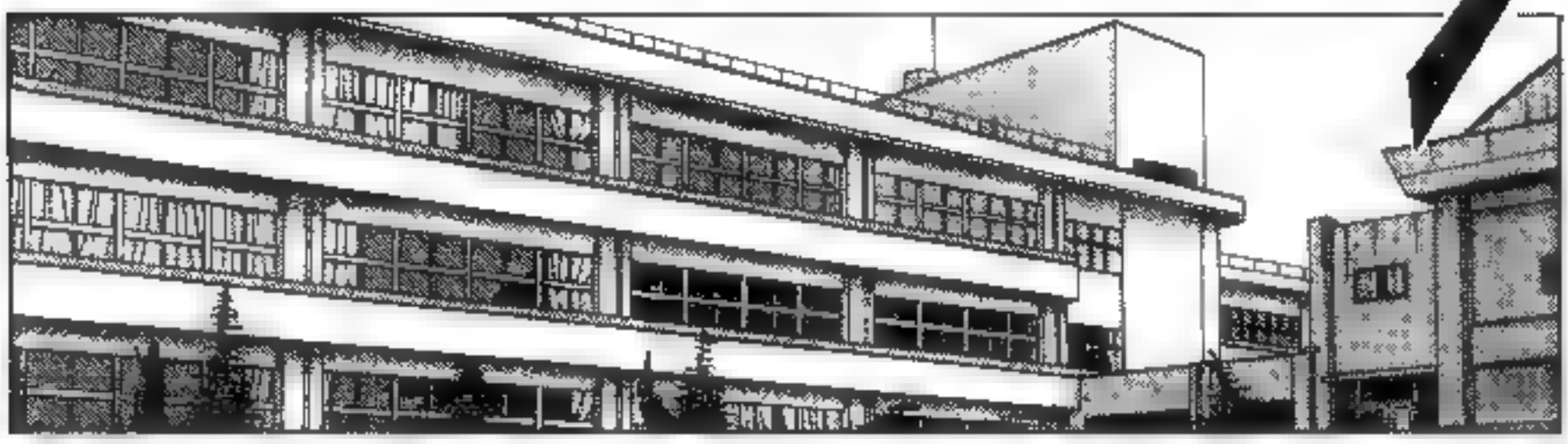
AHA HA HA HA HA!

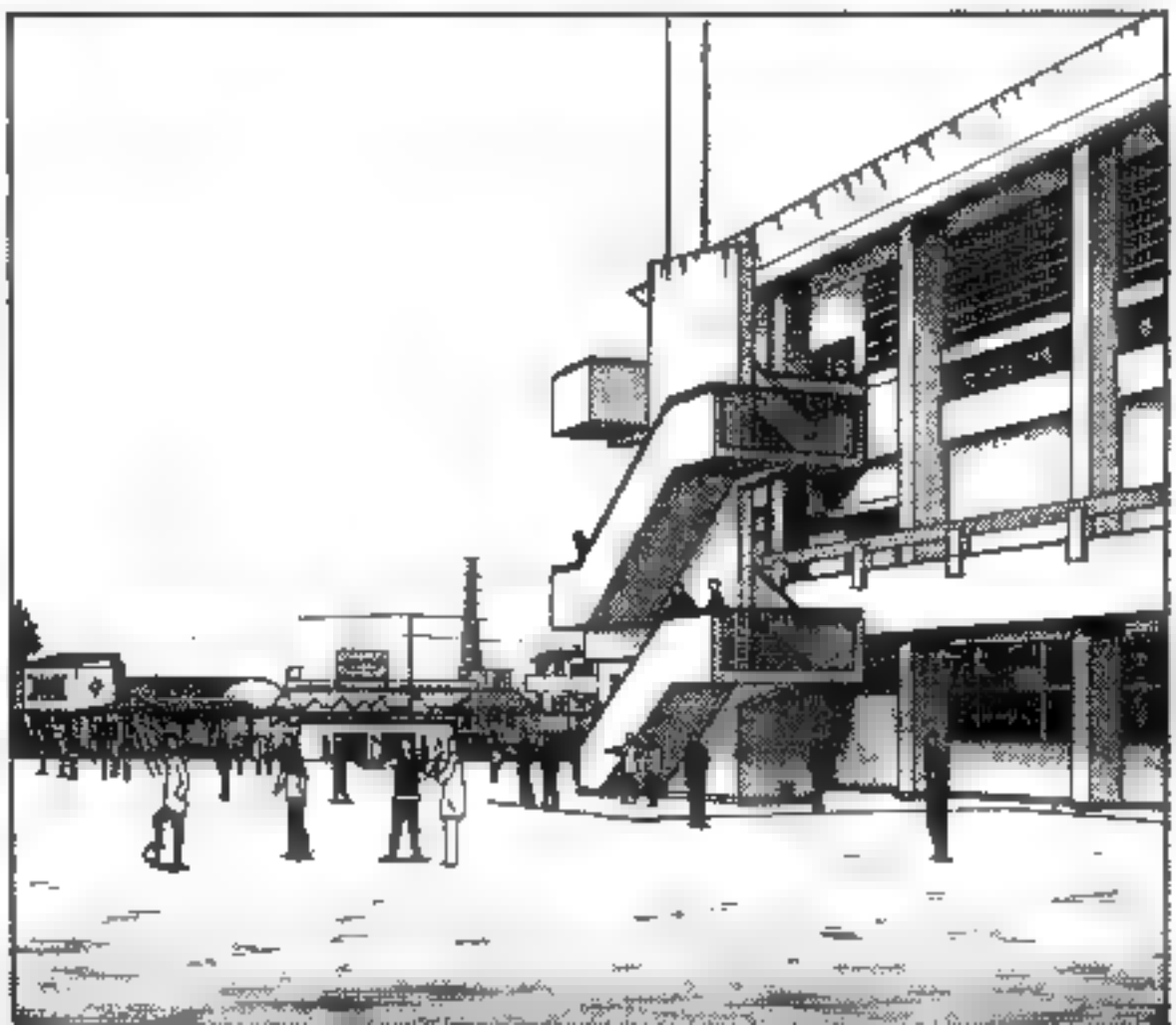
YESSSS! HERE WE GOOOO!

I AM JUST PLAIN PUMPED RIGHT THIS SECOND!!

HEE HEE.

OH, WHY CAN'T HE JUST BE QUIET?





AA..
GHHH.
Y-YOU GUYS ARE GONNA FUCKIN' GET IT NOW.. OUCHIE.

!?

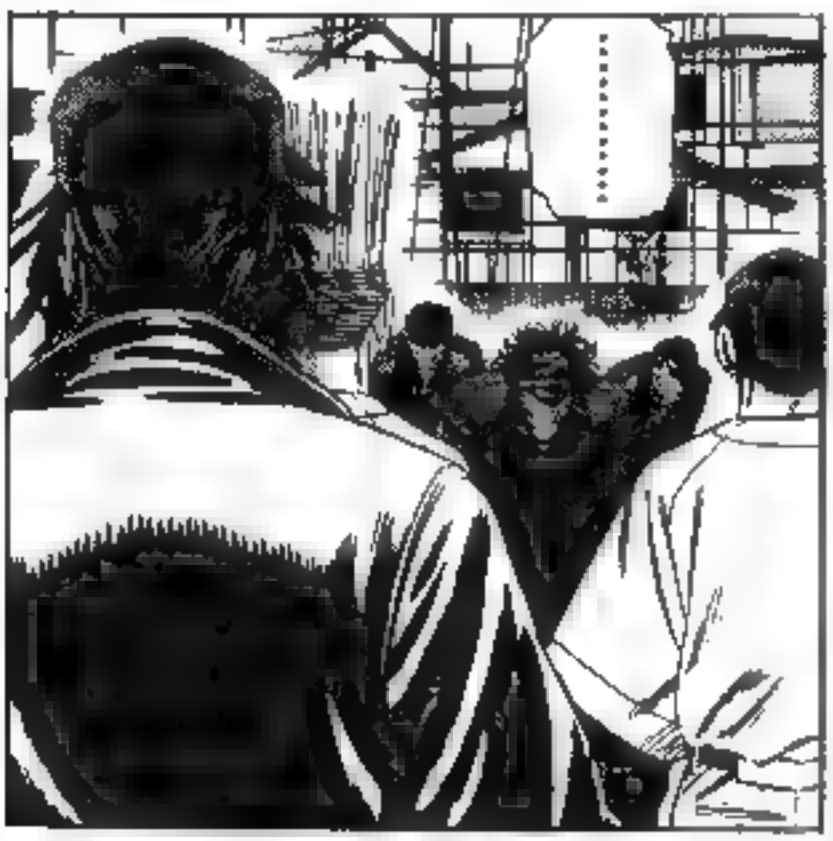
GOOD AFTER-NOON.
WE'RE HERE TO PAY OUR RESPECTS!

HUH ?!

W-WHAT THE-?!

WE WANT TO LEARN THE WAYS OF THUG LIFE HERE AT THE IMMORTAL NIKOGAKU BASE-BALL TEAM, AND ONE DAY ACCOM-PLISH OUR GOAL OF RULING TOKYO!

WE CAME HERE TO NIKOGAKU BECAUSE WE HAVE A LOTTA RESPECT FOR THE LEVELS OF ASS YOU KICK!



WE'LL FOLLOW YOU GUYS TO OUR DEATH!

WE SWEAR TO NEVER SULLY THE UNHOLY NAME OF THE NIKOGAKU TERROR!

PLEASE ACCEPT US AS YOUR OWN!

UMM, IS THERE A PROBLEM?

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

THIS CAN'T BE REAL.

WHO ARE THEY FOOLING?

PFF!

HA HA HA.

HEH HEH.

.....

DUDE. I CAN'T HOLD IT IN.

KEH HEH HEH.

...THE HELL ARE THEY TALKIN' ABOUT?

GYA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!

WHAT ARE THESE GUYS SMOKING?!

.....!?

GYA HA HA HA HA HA!

.....!?

I'M ABOUT TA RULE TOKYOO OOO!

GYAHA-HAHAHA, DUDE, STOP IT!

THEY'RE MAKIN' ME LOOK BAD...

GOD, I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED... TALK ABOUT BEING CHILDISH...

OH SHIT, MY STOMACH IS CRAMP-ING UP!

HOLY SHIT, YOU GUYS ARE SOME-THING ELSE!

SHIN-JO-SAN!

IT'S ME, TA-KANAMI! I WAS YOUR FOLLOW-ER IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!

GYA-HAHA-HAHA! WHAT DIMEN-SION ARE YOU GUYS FROM ?!

GLH...

WHOA.

HEY!

I FOLLOWED YOU HERE BECAUSE I WAS SO MOVED BY YOUR CRAZY EVILNESS BACK AT SCHOOL!

WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING AT US?! I DON'T UNDER-STAND!

OOPS!

CRAP.

HUH?

PICK THAT UP.

SHIN-JO-SAN?!

DON'T TOSS YOUR SHIT ON OUR FIELD.

WE PLAY *BASEBALL* HERE.

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU GUYS THINK THIS PLACE IS FOR?

W-WHAT ...?

YOU TELL 'EM, SHINJO!

ALSO, IF YOU WANT TO JOIN UP, SMOKING IS BANNED ON THE TEAM.

SERIOUSLY THOUGH, DON'T THROW YOUR BUTTS ON THE GROUND HERE.

HEY FOLKS, IS EVERYONE HERE?

HMM?!

WHEN WILL WE FINALLY BE FREE FROM THAT INCI-DENT...?

WHEN ...

LOOKING GOOD, LOOKING GOOD!

ALL RIGHT!

YOU ARE NOT LOOKING GOOD!

OH MY GOD, WHAT THE HELL ARE THOSE?!

WHY ?!

NO, NO, NO! THE SHADES GOTTA GO!

TAKE 'EM OFF!

HMMM? STILL ONE SHORT!

EIGHT.

NINE.

TEN.

ELEVEN...

Vol.144

The Real Akaboshi.

HEH HEH HEH! I HEAR HE WAS QUITE THE STAR ATHLETE AT HIS OLD SCHOOL!

AKA-BOSHI?! IS HE JOINING AFTER ALL?

AKA-BOSHI!

OH YEAH, IS AKABOSHI HERE?

SEE? THERE *MUST* BE ANOTHER AKABOSHI OUT THERE.

HUH?! BUT HE JUST SAID IT WAS A DIFFERENT GUY.

YEAH, HE COULD BARELY EVEN PLAY CATCH.

AKA-BOSHI'S REALLY... HERE...

WHAT, ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!

IT'S THE OTHER GUY, THEN!

...YEAH! I THINK I REMEMBER HEARING TWO AKABOSHI'S CALLED AT THE FIRST CEREMONY!

OH!

ACTU-ALLY, I THINK...

ALSO, DIDN'T WE TELL THE FIRST-YEARS TO COME IN P.E. CLOTHES OR EXERCISE OUT-FITS? DID YOU ALL FORGET YOURS?

I SEE. SO AKABOSHI'S THE ONLY ONE WE'RE MISSING

YOU IDIOT.

HMM?

.....

HEY, LOOK AT YOU! BIG STRONG BODY-WE COULD USE A GUY LIKE YOU! HA HA HA

WELL, YOU'RE FREE TO OBSERVE TODAY, BUT IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE, CHANGE OUT OF YOUR SCHOOL CLOTHES, MMKAY?

.....

OH SHIT, HE HIT HIM!

BFFUH!

WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING?!

.....

QUIT FUCKIN' AROUND WITH ME!!

!

W- WHAT'S THIS ABOUT ?!

WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON HERE?!

THIS IS THE GODDAMN NIKOGAKU BASEBALL TEAM!

WHAT THE FUCK'S THE DEAL, MAN?!

ARE YOU GUYS JUST MESSING WITH US?!

ISN'T THAT HILARI-OUS?

THESE GUYS HAVE A DREAM. TO JOIN THE BADASS NIKOGAKU BASEBALL TEAM, LEARN THE WAYS OF THUG LIFE AND RULE TOKYO.

.....???

.....!?

WELL, THAT'S SOMETHING YOU WOULD DO

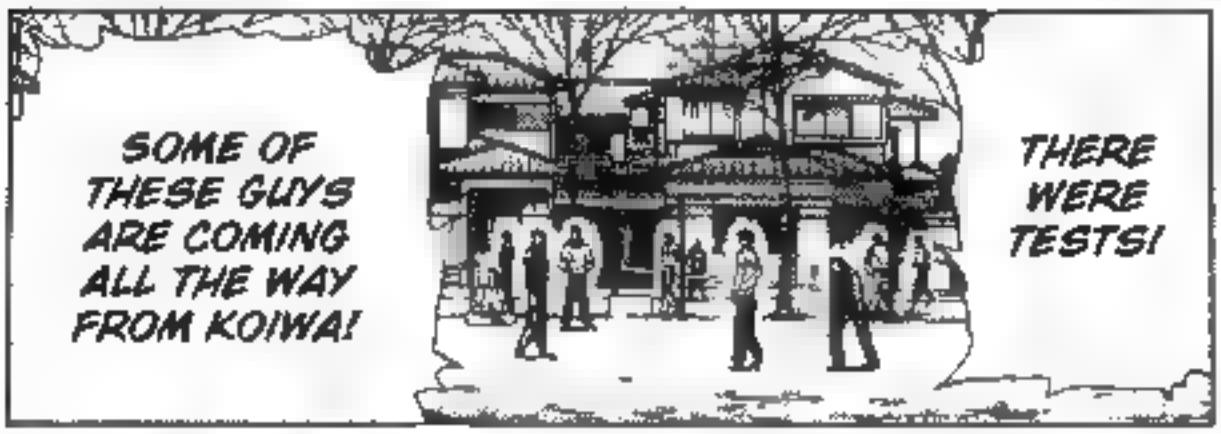
DID YOU ACTUALLY THINK THEY WERE HERE TO PLAY BALL?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID IT!
AIN'T IT YOUR DREAM TO ROOL THE SITTY?
W-WHAT, YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?!

A DREAM ...?
R-RULE TOKYO ...?

WHAT WAS IT ALL FOR?!
TELL ME, SHINJO-SAN! WHY DID WE SPEND ALL OUR EFFORT BEING SERIOUS JUST SO WE COULD GET INTO NIKOGAKU?!

T-THEN WHY...


SOME OF THESE GUYS ARE COMING ALL THE WAY FROM KOIWA!
THERE WERE TESTS!

IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA PLAY BASEBALL, THEN GO!
JUST LEAVE US ALONE!

IF WE'D KNOWN YOU'D BE LIKE THIS, WE WOULDN'T HAVE...
KNOCK IT OFF!
.....

SAY WHAAA-AAT?!

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS BY NOW? JUST GO!

THIS ISN'T THE SAME BASEBALL TEAM YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW ANYMORE!

LEAVE US ALONE!

WHOA, HOLD ON, THERE.

NOT A GOOD IDEA TO START HITTING PEOPLE

.....!

FUCK THAT SHIT!

FUCK THIS GUY...

YOU GUYS START PRACTICE, ALL RIGHT?

WHA...

KA-POW

YEEOW!

COCK-SUCKIN' TEACHER !!

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

SEN-SEI!

WHA ...

WHOOP-SIE!

URA-AAHH !!

.....!?

THAT'S A BIG DREAM.

YOU WANNA RULE TOKYO, HUH?

BUT THIS IS THE WAY I GO HOME.

HEY, WHY ARE YOU CUTTIN' ACROSS THE FIELD?

THE EXIT'S *THAT* WAY.

HUH?

THIS IS OUR TURF. GET THE FUCK OFF

AKA-
BOSHI!

OH...

OH, HEY,
IT'S YOU,
DAMMIT...

HUH?!
IS THIS
THE FAKE
AKABOSHI
FROM YOUR
CLASS,
KID?!

IT'S
HAMANAKA
AND YOU
KNOW IT!
THAT'S NOT
FUNNY!

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

OH,
YEAH,
UMMM
...

HUH?

IS
THAT
YOU!
...?

AKA-
BOSHI
...

HUH?

I KNEW IT...

YOU ARE!

YOU'RE AKABOSHI FROM FUTAKO THIRD MIDDLE SCHOOL.

HEY, WHAT THE HELL?

WHO ARE YOU?

!

NO WAY!

ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!

W-WHAAAAAT?! YOU MEAN THAT'S THE GUY?!

HUH? WAIT...

YOU MEAN IT REALLY WAS YOU?!

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME YOU EVER PUT A GLOVE ON.

W-WAIT A MINUTE . YOU COULD BARELY EVEN CATCH AND THROW A BALL!

THERE, SEE? HOW COME YOU'RE

YEAH, IT WAS A FIRST FOR ME.

GYA-HAHAHA! PEOPLE DON'T KNOW YOU, SON!

WHO'S ANYA?

THIS IS ANIYA.

HEY, YOU STRUCK THIS GUY OUT ON THREE PITCHES ONCE RE-MEMBER?

I MEAN, I'M LEFT-HANDED. I *THROW* WITH MY LEFT [redacted]

HARD TO THROW LIKE THAT, MAN.

FIRST TIME WEAR-ING ONE ON MY LEFT HAND

HUH?!

LEF

DAMN, MAN! NOW I GET IT!

ALL RIGHT! WAY TO SHOW UP, DOGG!

YEAH, AKA-BOSHI! YEAA-AAH!

IT'S THE REAL DUDE!

OH

WHOA.

.....

AKA-BOSHI ...

I BEEN LOOKIN' FOR THAT FUCKER WITH THE FOREHEAD

HE TAPPED CIGARETTE ASHES ON MY UNIFORM SLEEVE YESTERDAY...

SO, HE'S AKA-BOSHI ...

HEY.

IT'S THAT GUY...

I SAID HEY! WHAT'S THIS BULLSHIT ABOUT A DREAM, HUH?!

LOOK AT ME, BITCH!

WHY? YOU'RE JOINING THE TEAM, AREN'T YOU?
THEN YOU GOTTA SHOW UP FOR PRACTICE TODAY. YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE.
UHHHH.

WHY?
PRAC-TICE?

THAT WHAT GUYS WHO SUCK DO. I DON'T NEED IT.
I DON'T "PRACTICE."

YOU DON'T THINK THAT EXCUSE IS GONNA FLY WITH US, DO YOU?!
HEY, GET THE FUCK BACK HERE!
YEAH, MAN!

WHA...
THAT'S ALL LATER.

HEY...

OH... SHIT.

HEY, KID WITH THE BIG HEAD! I BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU!

HUH?

I GET IT! YOU'RE STILL NOT THE REAL AKA-BOSHI!

ORAAAAH!

HEY, LET ME GO. WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, ANYWAY? AND WHO ARE YOU?

HUH?! SAYS WHO?!

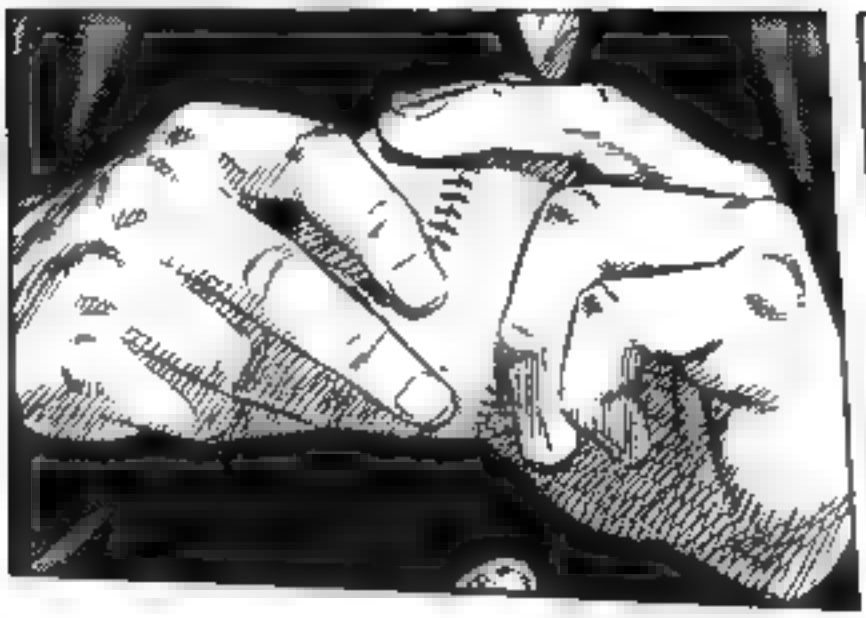
GET OFF, MAN!

OH, SHUT THE HELL UP! YOUR JOKE'S OVER! DEATH TO FALSE AKA-BOSHI!

HUH?!

AH!

!



GET BACK HERE!

!
ORAAAAAA!

HEY!!
KNEE.

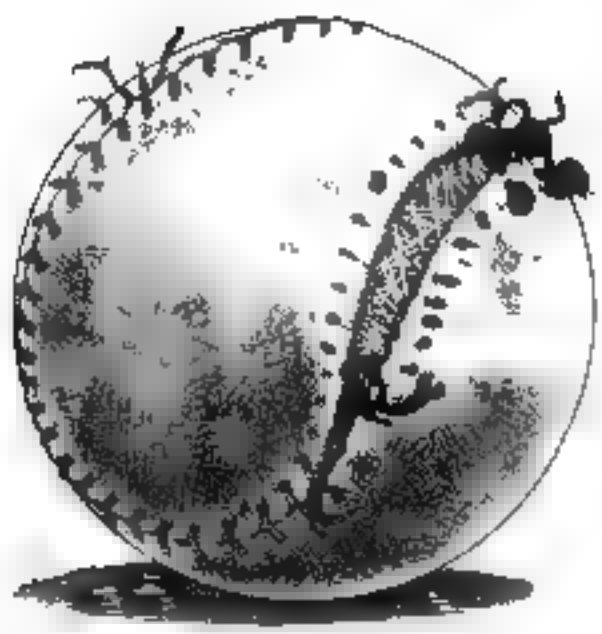
GAAAHH!

ガイン

.....

F-FORGET IT! LET'S JUST GO, OKAY?

THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON OVER THERE, AKABOSHI-KUN.



Vol.145

There's Always Tomorrow (Going to Georgia Ver.)

Note The title is the name of a song that was covered by the band Jifuls in 2001.
This cover was used in a commercial for Coca Cola's Georgia coffee,
and was also the official entrance BGM for the Koshien that year

OH YEAH? MY BACK GAVE OUT ON ME FOR THE THIRD TIME THIS YEAR.

MAN, I STILL CAN'T GET OVER MY ALLER-GIES.

MORNING

MOVE! MOVE IT!

HEY!

EEEK!

HUFF!

HUFF!

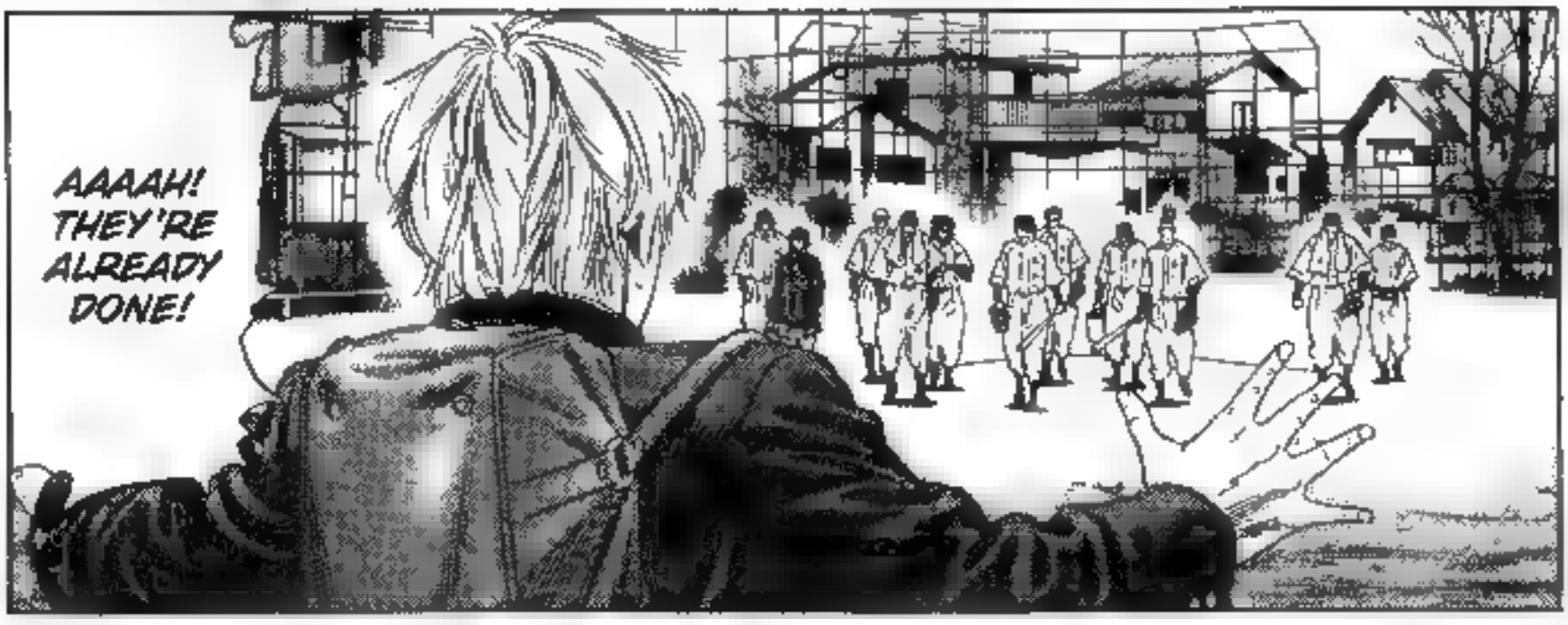
HEY, WHAT'S UP?

OH SHIT!

HUFF!

HUFF!

CRAP, LOOK AT THE TIME!


AAAAH! THEY'RE ALREADY DONE!

I DON'T SEE THEM, OH, GOOD! I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE, THEN!
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER FIRST-YEARS?

YOU GOT A LOTTA NERVE, MISSING THE FIRST DAY! ARE YOU EVEN TRYING?!
I'M SO SORRY! I SLEPT IN!
TAKE IT EASY, MORNING PRACTICE IS OPTIONAL.

MAN, 12 APPLICANTS, AND NONE OF THEM ARE WORTH A SHIT.
NONE OF THOSE OTHER RETARDS ARE COMING

LET'S GO, MIKOSHIBA.
ONE!
TWO!
THREE!
FOUR!
FIVE!
WHEW!
RAAAH!

HEY!
UM, I'LL GET STARTED ON MY TEN THOUSAND SWINGS!

GYA-HAHA-HA!

WHAT WAS THEIR DEAL? RULING TOKYO?

MAN, WHAT WAS *UP* WITH THOSE IDIOTS YESTER-DAY?

HUH? HIM, DECENT?

THE ONLY DECENT ONE WAS HAMA-NAKA..

DUNNO.

WHAT DID KAWATO TELL HIM TO MAKE THEM LEAVE?

THOSE GUYS ALL SORT OF DRIFTED OFF AFTER ALL THE SHIT THAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY, BUT YOU KNOW... IT COULDA BEEN BAD W THOUT KAWATO THERE.

ALSO, AKABOSHI.

WE DON'T NEED PEOPLE WHO DON'T CARE ABOUT THE GAME!

THEY'LL GIVE UP EVENTUALLY. HELL, THEY WON'T EVEN SHOW UP ANYMORE.

.....

.....

I DIDN'T LIKE THE SHIT HE SAID, BUT I GOTTA ADMIT, HE WAS GOOD.

I HEARD HIM RIGHT...

KNEE

HE CALLED HIS LOCATION RIGHT BEFORE HE THREW THAT BALL!

IT WASN'T ...

YEAH, OBVIOUSLY.

HIS VELOCITY WAS GREAT, BUT HITTING THE KNEE WAS JUST A FLUKE.

キィ

22!

21!

AAAH!

ブーン

キ"キ"イ

!

HUFF.

HUFF.

HUFF ...

AKA-BOSHI!

!

WHOA, WHATCHA DOIN'?

MORNING PRACTICE? CRAZY...

HUH? WHY ALL THE STARES?

YOU GUYS ARE SCARY

EXCUSE ME?

WHO CARES? IT'S A SHORT-CUT

D-DIDN'T THEY TELL YOU NOT TO WALK THROUGH HERE?!

I DON'T NEED TO PRACTICE.

I TOLD YOU.

MIKO-SHIBA.

YOU BETTER SHOW UP TO PRAC-TICE

BUT MIKO-SHIBA... YOU SAW WHAT HE DID YES-TERDAY ..

THAT DOESN'T MATTER! I WOULDN'T WANT THE BEST PLAYER IN THE WORLD ON MY TEAM, IF HE DIDN'T PRACTICE!

AND DON'T WALK THROUGH THE FIELD! NEVER WALK THROUGH HERE!

THEN QUIT!

WE DON'T NEED PEOPLE HANGING AROUND THAT AREN'T DEDICATED!

YOU MIGHT REGRET SAYING THAT.

IS THAT RIGHT?

J

WANT TO SEE ME HIT, THIS TIME?

HEY.

HUH?

NO, I DON'T!

HEY, MAN. DON'T THROW AT MY HEAD JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO AFRAID OF GETTING SHOWN UP THROWING OVER THE PLATE.

!

.....

GET BACK HERE, AKA-BOSHI!

DON'T WALK AWAY!

SHOW'S OVER, GUYS.

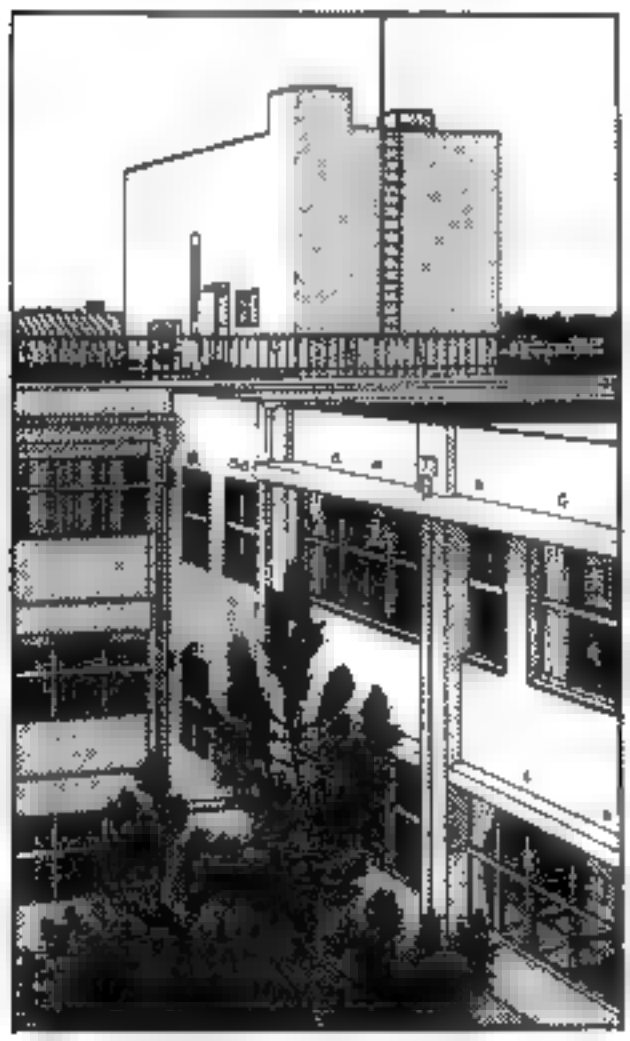
WHAT'D YOU SAY...?

WHA...

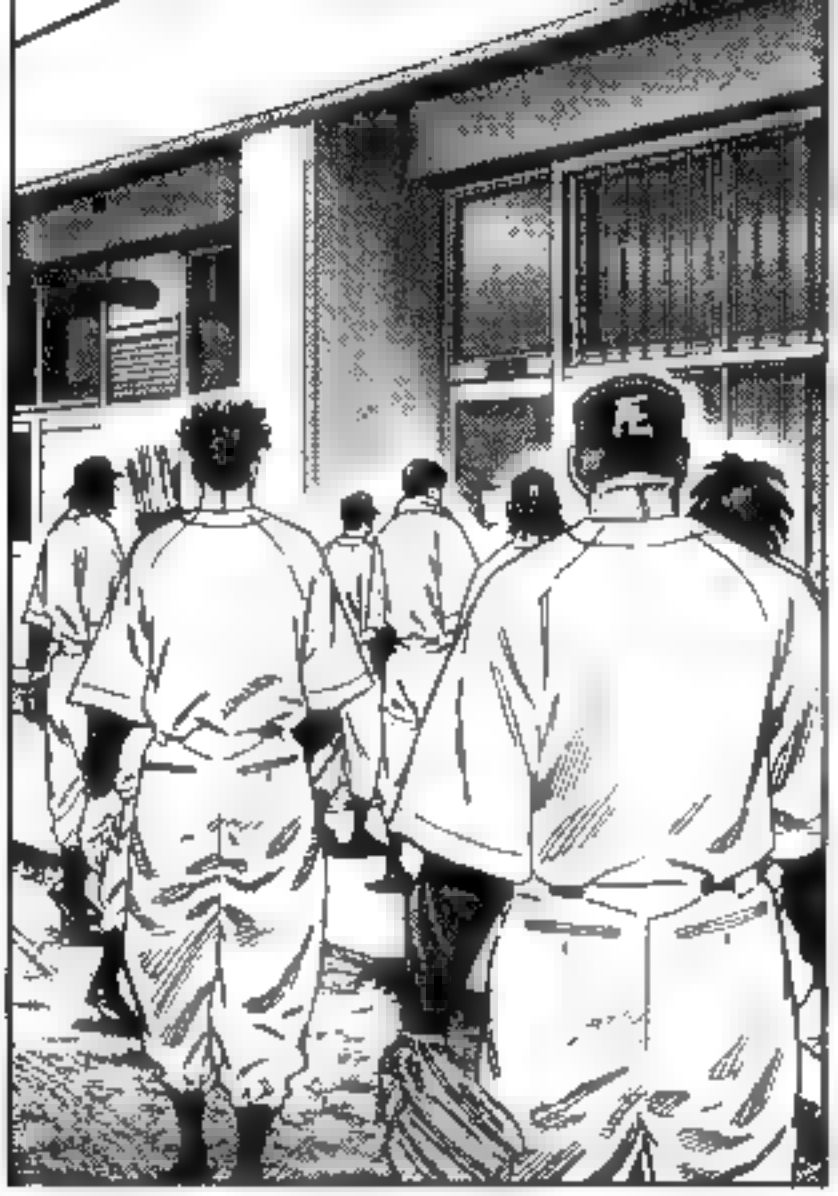
I'LL PLAY ANY POSITION YOU NEED.
CALL ME UP WHEN YOU GOT A GAME.

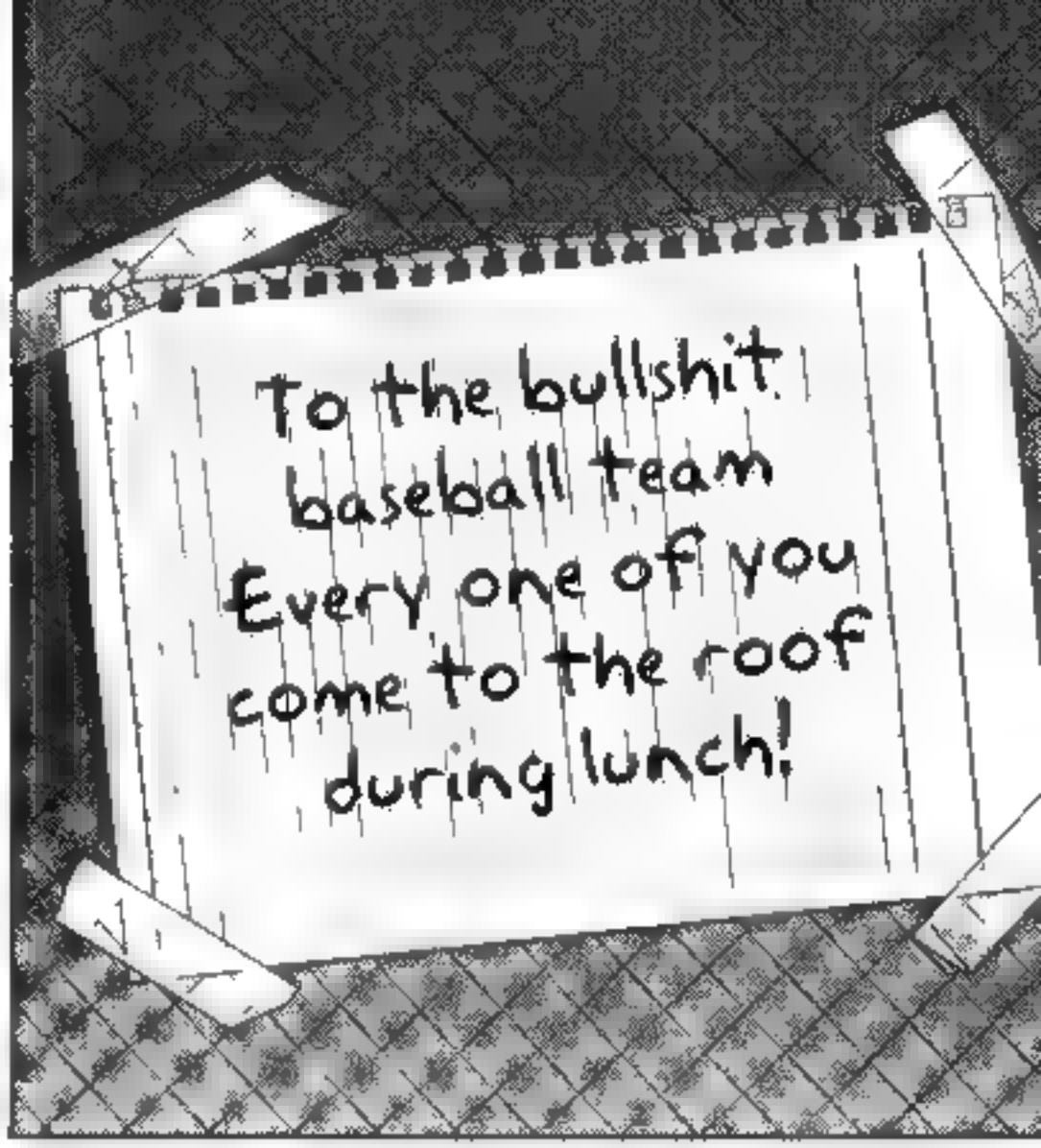
YEAH! WE DON'T WANT YOU, PREMATURE BALDER!

SHUT YOUR MOUTH! WE'RE NEVER CALLING YOU!



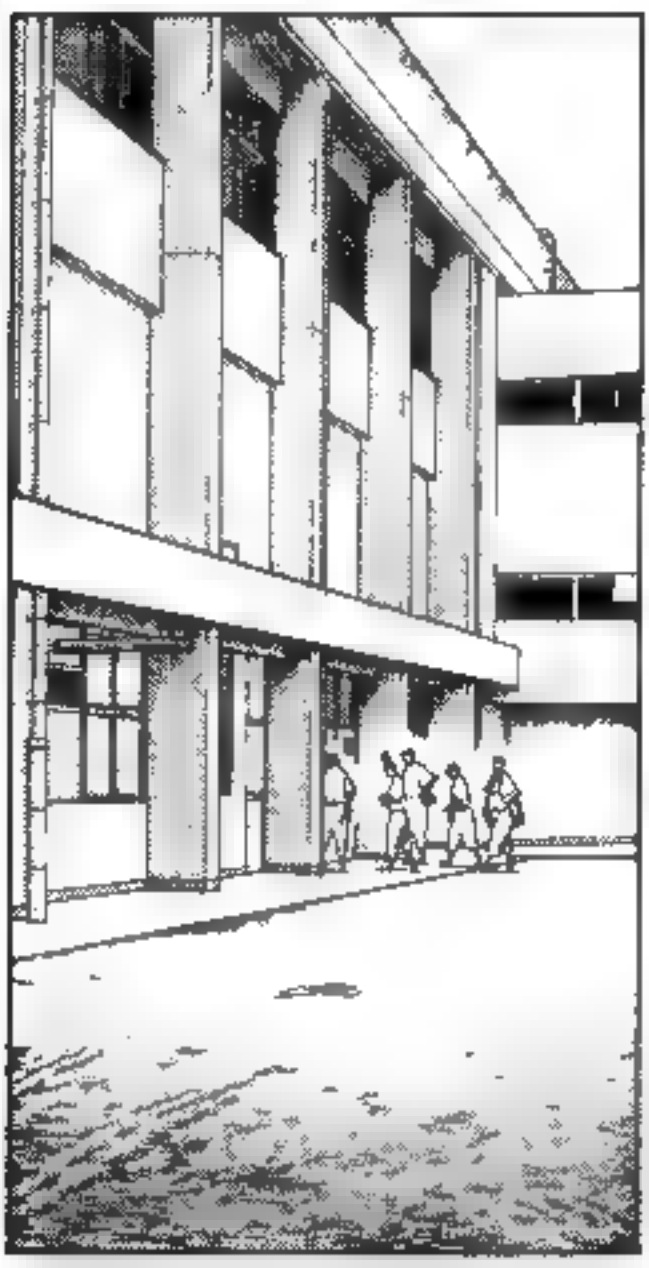
GET LOST!
GET THE FUCK OUTTA HERE!




To the bullshit baseball team
Every one of you come to the roof during lunch!

ビリ
ぐしゃ

……



WHO CARES ABOUT THE SECOND-YEARS? LET'S JUST GET THAT AKABOSHI GUY OUT HERE!

SHUT UP!

IT STILL HURTS, MAN.

GOD-DAMN, I'M GONNA KILL THAT GUY.

WHAT? DID YOU JUST CALL THAT A "DREAM" ?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! LOOK AT ME!

YOU WANNA RULE TOKYO, HUH?

THAT'S A BIG DREAM.

YOU CAN'T "RULE" UNLESS YOU PLAY BY ITS LAWS AND EVERYONE ACCEPTS YOUR RULE.

IT'S A BIG DREAM, DON'T GET ME WRONG- BUT SOCIETY HAS RULES.

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SERIOUS ENOUGH.

THE EYES OF MEN BURNING FOR THEIR DREAMS SPARKLE BRIGHTER.

SHUT THE FUCK UP! I DON'T CARE!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

HMMM? NO, THAT'S NOT RIGHT.

.....!?

WHAT WAS THAT BU..SHIT ABOUT?

THAT FUCK'N' TEACHER ...

H-HAMA-NAKA!

THEY DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT YOU GUYS.

WHAT'S TAKIN' THEM SO LONG?!

THEY'RE LATE!

!

THEY'RE NOT COMING, DORK.

BUT THEY'RE TOO BUSY NOW TO WASTE THEIR TIME ON YOUR BULLSHIT THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE: A WASTE OF TIME.

THEY WOULD HAVE COME TO RUMBLE, SIX MONTHS AGO.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?!

WHAT ?!

THEY'RE MORE CONCERNED WITH WHAT TO DO ABOUT AKABOSHI THAN YOU, RIGHT NOW.

THERE AIN'T NO GLITTERIN' IF THEY'RE BOTHERIN' WITH TWO-B.T THUGS.

LATER.

FLUTTER INTO YOUR DREAMS, GLITTER INTO TOMORROW.

YOU GUYS WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT, THOUGH.

IS THIS EVEN THE SAME NIKOGAKU ?!

WHAT THE HELL ARE WE DOING HERE?!

T-THEY ARE SERIOUSLY DISRESPECTIN'...

NOT UNTIL I SEE THE DEPTHS I KNOW THEY'LL SINK TO!

THIS AIN'T NIKOGAKU! I WON'T BELIEVE IT!

HE'S THE ONE WHO TURNED ALL OF THEM TOTALLY CRAZY...

IT'S THAT TEACH-ER...

!?

.....

HE DON'T UNDERSTAND MY BODY LAN- GUAGE~

ニョオー!!

THIS IS MY CHANCE, THIS IS MY CHANCE~

MY NEW BOSS IS A FRENCH- MAN~

ニョロロロオオ…

THERE'S ALWAYS TOMOR- ROW~

THERE'S ALWAYS TOMOR- ROW~

TIME TO HIT THE BOOKS AGAIN~

THERE'S ALLLL- WAYYYYS TOMOR- ROWWW~

WHY'D YOU COME TO NIKOGAKU?

I DIDN'T REALLY CARE *WHERE* I WENT.

I'M SE-RIOUS.
'CAUSE IT'S CLOSE.
FUCK OFF.

I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED IN JAPANESE BASEBALL.

ズ
ズ
ズ

15 麻につるる蓬(完)

■ジャンプ・コミックス

ROOKIES

15麻につるる蓬

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